

**NATION**

Trump willing to shut down government over border issues

Page 10

**NATION**

Supreme Court pick's Second Amendment stance no mystery

Page 12

**PACIFIC**

Brown becomes 14th 4-star general to lead Pacific Air Forces

Page 6

**Patriots QB Brady brushes off questions about trainer » NFL, Page 30**

# STARS STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 77, No. 74 ©SS 2018 **MONDAY, JULY 30, 2018**

平成30年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

**50¢/Free to Deployed Areas**

## Ceremony planned to honor repatriated remains

Identities of those inside 55 returned cases not yet known

By **KIM GAMEL**  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — The U.S. military plans a ceremony Wednesday to honor the 55 cases of remains handed over by North Korea last week. But it's likely to be a long time before the identities of those inside can be verified.

North Korea's decision to allow the U.S. to send a cargo plane to collect the remains on Friday partially fulfilled a promise its leader made during his June 12 summit with President Donald Trump.

Trump hailed it as "a great moment for so many

families" and thanked North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

The next step will be to send the remains to a military lab in Hawaii where they will undergo a lengthy forensics process.

U.S. officials also are eager to resume searches in North Korea for more remains, an effort that has been stalled for more than a decade due to rising nuclear tensions.

More than 7,600 American servicemembers remain missing from the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

**SEE REMAINS ON PAGE 4**



MARCUS FICHTL/Stars and Stripes

**The first of 55 cases of remains repatriated from North Korea is carried off a plane at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Friday.**

## Drilling deeper

US, Egyptian sailors aim to boost teamwork, strengthen military diving skills in training exercise

Page 2



**A U.S. sailor, left, and Egyptian Naval Force sailors conduct a familiarization dive on Wednesday during Eagle Response 18, an explosive ordnance disposal and diving exercise.**

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

## MILITARY

# US, Egyptian navies train together at Eagle Response 18

By SCOTT WYLAND  
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. and Egyptian navies are practicing how to detect and neutralize underwater explosives using dive teams and drones in an exercise in the Red Sea.

Sailors from 5th Fleet's underwater ordnance and disposal units are training with the Egyptian navy to improve teamwork and strengthen military diving skills.

The exercise, Eagle Response 18, which began Tuesday at the

Red Sea Naval Base, includes underwater detonation drills, underwater drone operations and anti-terrorism and force-protection dives.

"Diving is one of the most hazardous evolutions a human can do, and it's important we share our experiences and learn from each other to improve safety across the board," said Chief Petty Officer Eli Hernandez, the decompression training instructor.

wyland.scott@stripes.com  
Twitter: @wylandstripes



Chief Petty Officer Eli Hernandez, a Navy corpsman, and an Egyptian servicemember discuss the physiological effects of diving.



Above: Sailors deployed to U.S. 5th Fleet's Task Group 52.3 prepare to depart a boat during a familiarization dive with the Egyptian Naval Force during Eagle Response 18. Left: Sailors conduct hands-on demolition charge training.

PHOTOS BY CHLOE MORGAN  
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

## TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup ..... 16  
Business ..... 18  
Classified ..... 19, 23  
Comics ..... 22  
Crossword ..... 22  
Faces ..... 17  
Opinion ..... 20-21  
Sports ..... 25-32  
Weather ..... 18

## STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us,  
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

### EUROPE

#### ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

kimmel.kristi@stripes.com

+49 (0) 631-3615-9013

### MIDDLE EAST

#### ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

kimmel.kristi@stripes.com

+49 (0) 631-3615-9013

### PACIFIC

#### ADVERTISING

ICHIRO  
KATAYANAGI

CustomerHelp@Stripes.com

+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

# PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES. RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the **European and Pacific** editions  
of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at  
[www.stripes.com/relo](http://www.stripes.com/relo)





## EUROPE



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS  
Stars and Stripes

**Above:** Dressed in a World War I-style uniform, Cpl. John Koenig, of the 42nd Infantry Division, stands Saturday near the flagpole at Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in Seringes-et-Nesles, France.

**Right:** French re-enactors dressed in World War I-style uniforms march through Oise-Aisne American Cemetery before the start of Saturday's ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the World War I Oise-Aisne Offensive.



# Americans, French mark centennial of WWI offensive

BY MICHAEL ABRAMS  
Stars and Stripes

SERINGES-ET-NESELES, France — French and Americans gathered at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France on Saturday to mark the centennial of the Oise-Aisne Offensive.

About 55,000 Americans were killed or wounded in the World War I operation, which included two separate offensives, the Aisne-Marne and the Oise-Aisne battles. Most of the nearly 6,000 Americans buried at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery died in those battles.

The centennial ceremony Saturday featured a flyover by two World War I-style biplanes to honor the pilots who fell in the war, including Lt. Quentin Roosevelt, President Theodore Roosevelt's son, who was shot down nearby in July 1918.

U.S. Maj. Gen. Steve Ferrari, commander of the 25th Infantry Division, and Gen. Joseph Lengyel, chief of the National Guard Bureau, both gave speeches, quoting poet and 42nd Division soldier Sgt. Joyce Kilmer, who is buried at the cemetery. Ferrari ended his speech with Kilmer's powerful poem "Prayer:"

Standing nearby, dressed in a World War I-style American uniform, Cpl. John Koenig, of Headquarters and Support Company, 42nd Infantry Division, said, "I still can't believe I am in France



**A biplane flies over Oise-Aisne American Cemetery during Saturday's ceremony.**

for the ceremony. This unit is close to me, and I am interested to learn more about it."

The 42nd fought a two-day battle nearby at Croix Rouge Farm, where another ceremony was planned later Saturday at the division's memorial monument.

A three-volley salute was given by a French 75-mm cannon from 1897. The ceremony ended with a firing of volleys by a U.S. Army honor platoon and the playing of French and American taps.

"It's fantastic to have been here. We've been here for a week and have seen most of the sites where our unit fought," said Command Sgt. Maj. Terry White, of 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry Regiment, as he walked through the rows of crosses and Stars of David after the ceremony.

abrams.mike@stripes.com  
Twitter: @stripes\_photo



**French and Americans gather Saturday at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery.**



**Command Sgt. Maj. Terry White, of 1st Battalion, 167th Infantry Regiment, walks among the graves at Oise-Aisne American Cemetery after the ceremony.**

## MILITARY

# Remains: Variety of methods to aid identification

## FROM FRONT PAGE

Some 5,300 of those are believed to have been lost in North Korea, which is separated from the South by one of the world's most fortified borders.

"Just over 1,000 men are unrecovered" from the so-called Demilitarized Zone and nearby buffer zones, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, or DPAA.

Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander of U.S. Forces Korea and United Nations Command, will host a full honors ceremony on Wednesday for the remains, which were flown to Osan Air Base.

"Immediately following that ceremony, the remains will be flown to Hawaii for further processing under the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency," the UNC said Friday.

Once the remains are in Hawaii, staff at the DPAA laboratory, which bills itself as the "largest and most diverse skeletal identification laboratory in the world," will use a variety of methods to try to identify each set of remains.

Forensic anthropologists will try to develop a biological profile, including sex, race, height and age at death. They'll also look at the condition of bones for hints of trauma and medical conditions as well as other clues. Also valuable will be any bits of clothing, dog tags or other personal effects returned with the remains.

Scientists also test DNA, which can be compared with family reference samples that are kept on file. The DPAA has family reference samples for more than 90 percent of the missing servicemen, said spokesman Lt. Col. Kenneth Hoffman.

But past remains have been found to be mixed with unidentified individuals and, in at least one case, animal bones. DNA samples must be sent for analysis to a separate lab at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Dental evidence and chest-radiograph comparisons are other important indicators.

Hoffman said the military has a database of X-ray images of rib



MARCUS FICHT/Stars and Stripes

**Staff Sgt. Jamil Green carries the final case of remains Friday at Osan Air Base, South Korea.**

cages of thousands of American servicemen.

"The clavicle is actually as unique as your fingerprint," he said in an email.

"No loss is resolved by one single piece of evidence," he added. "Identifications are made based upon multiple lines of evidence — both scientific and historical." Meanwhile, the boxes holding the remains returned Friday were draped in blue U.N. flags, as 15 other nations fought under the banner alongside the U.S. during the war.

Some cases have taken decades to resolve. As recently as last month, a South Korean soldier whose remains were found by search teams in North Korea in 2001 finally was returned home.

The DPAA has received about 630 sets of remains from unilateral turnovers and field recovery missions. Hoffman said, adding that "not all were American remains."

So far, 339 identifications have been made, "approximately 80 percent of what we believe to be American from those sources," he said.

The White House is looking forward to resuming field operations, another agreement stemming from the summit and seen as an important goodwill gesture from the North amid more difficult negotiations over dismantling its nuclear weapons program.

"Today, the Chairman is fulfilling part of the commitment he made to the President to return our fallen American service members," the White House said in a statement. "We are encouraged by North Korea's actions and the momentum for positive change."

Stars and Stripes correspondent

Marcus Ficht contributed to this report.

gamel.kim@stripes.com

Twitter: @ikimgamel

# Okinawa governor vows new challenge to halt base move

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
Stars and Stripes

**CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa** — Okinawa's anti-base governor once again has unveiled plans to revoke permitting for a new coastal runway that will facilitate the relocation and closure of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Gov. Takeshi Onaga announced Friday that he will revoke approval permitting for a landfill into Oura Bay at the remote northern Marine Corps base Camp Schwab after the central government allegedly violated environmental regulations regarding an endangered species of coral, deviated from construction plans and withheld vital information, according to a statement provided to Stars and Stripes.

Onaga also said surveys indicate the sea wall protecting the construction area could be compromised, there is an active fault in the area, and some of the base's nearby buildings are in violation of U.S. Department of Defense safety guidelines.

Before canceling the permits, Onaga plans to convene a hearing with Okinawa Defense Bureau officials. He cited his executive authority in putting a halt to the project.

"With that many environmental and disaster prevention violations, and factoring in all the disadvantages for locals, the prefectural government has concluded that the Okinawa Defense Bureau has not met the guidelines and also failed to meet the National Land Use Planning Act," he said in the statement.

"The Okinawa prefectural government is going to start the process of withdrawing the approval," he added. "I will use any methods and do my best to keep my public commitment (to halt the project)."

Since his landslide election in November 2014, Onaga has caused significant delays through two court challenges, the most recent ending in March, but has been unsuccessful in stopping the relocation.

Construction will continue, at



CHYOMI SUMIDA/Stars and Stripes

**Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga speaks after a rally in Naha, Okinawa, in May 2015.**

least for the time being, said Masashi Katsuren, of the Okinawa Defense Bureau.

"We are aware of the governor's press conference," he said. "However, we have not heard anything officially from the prefectural government; therefore, we cannot make any comments at this time."

Onaga faces re-election in November. He has been battling pancreatic cancer in recent months, but has vowed to push forward with his opposition to the project.

The relocation project's genesis can be traced to 1995, when two Marines and a sailor kidnapped and brutally raped a 12-year-old local girl. During mass protests that followed, Ginowan residents called for relocation of Futenma's air operations out of safety concerns.

The air station is in a densely populated urban area in the center of the tiny island prefecture.

The move was agreed upon during bilateral negotiations in 1996. However, some residents were angered a year later when it was announced that Futenma would be kept within the southern island prefecture.

It then was decided that a runway would be built at Camp Schwab on Okinawa's remote northern coast and that the base would be expanded to facilitate the move.

In 2013, then-Gov. Hirokazu

Nakaima signed off on a permit to allow the landfill work, and construction began in August 2014.

A couple of months later, Onaga was elected on a platform of vowing to block the relocation and to banish MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft from the island.

Construction was suspended in March 2016 after Onaga revoked a permit to fill in the sea for the runway.

That revocation was struck down by the Fukuoka High Court in December 2016. In July 2017, Onaga filed another unsuccessful district court lawsuit saying the government was breaking coral without the proper permits.

Landfill work was delayed until Aug. 17, 2018, after an endangered type of coral — Porites okinawensis — was discovered at the site in July 2017. The delay facilitated the use of an alternative, environmentally friendly construction method to complete a seawall around the construction site. The coral faces extinction and is on Japan's Red List of Threatened Species, according to the country's Ministry of Environment.

The runway is the cornerstone of the Futenma relocation, and the landfill is seen as the last major hurdle. The work is expected to be completed by March 31, 2020, according to the defense bureau.

burke.matt@stripes.com  
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com

# Sailor accused of slashing Okinawa man's neck, vehicle vandalism

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
Stars and Stripes

**CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa** — A sailor was arrested early Sunday after allegedly vandalizing a vehicle and then slashing the neck of a Japanese man tried to intervene, police said.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Neal Scheffer, 23, was taken into custody about 4 a.m. after a side mirror was broken on a vehicle parked in the area of Hanby Market in Chatan, near Camp Foster, said Okinawa Police spokesman Takashi Tonouchi.

Scheffer was confronted by three local men who had called police to report the vandalism, Tonouchi said. The men said they tried to stop Scheffer when he allegedly grabbed a piece of the broken mirror and cut one of them on the left side of his neck. The wound required "a few" stitches, the spokesman said.

The men held the sailor down until police arrived, he added.

Police believe Scheffer — reportedly visiting the island from Guam — was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident, Tonouchi said. He appeared heav-

ily intoxicated and police smelled alcohol on his breath, though no Breathalyzer test was given.

Scheffer was being held Sunday at the Okinawa City police station pending formal charges.

## Airman arrested

In a separate weekend incident on Okinawa, Senior Airman Robert Lowery, 23, was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving shortly after 12:30 a.m. Saturday after hitting a vehicle in Chatan and fleeing the scene, Tonouchi said.

Lowery then allegedly hit the median and smashed into a utility pole, the spokesman said. When police arrived and administered a Breathalyzer test, the airman's blood-alcohol content was five times Japan's legal limit of 0.03 percent, police said.

All 50 U.S. states have set 0.08 percent as the legal limit for driving under the influence or driving while impaired.

Lowery also was being held at the Okinawa City police station on Sunday.

burke.matt@stripes.com  
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com



# YOU CAN VOTE FROM OVERSEAS IN 2018!

No matter where you are in the world,  
you can register to vote absentee.

**Go to [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov)**

**Fill out the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)**

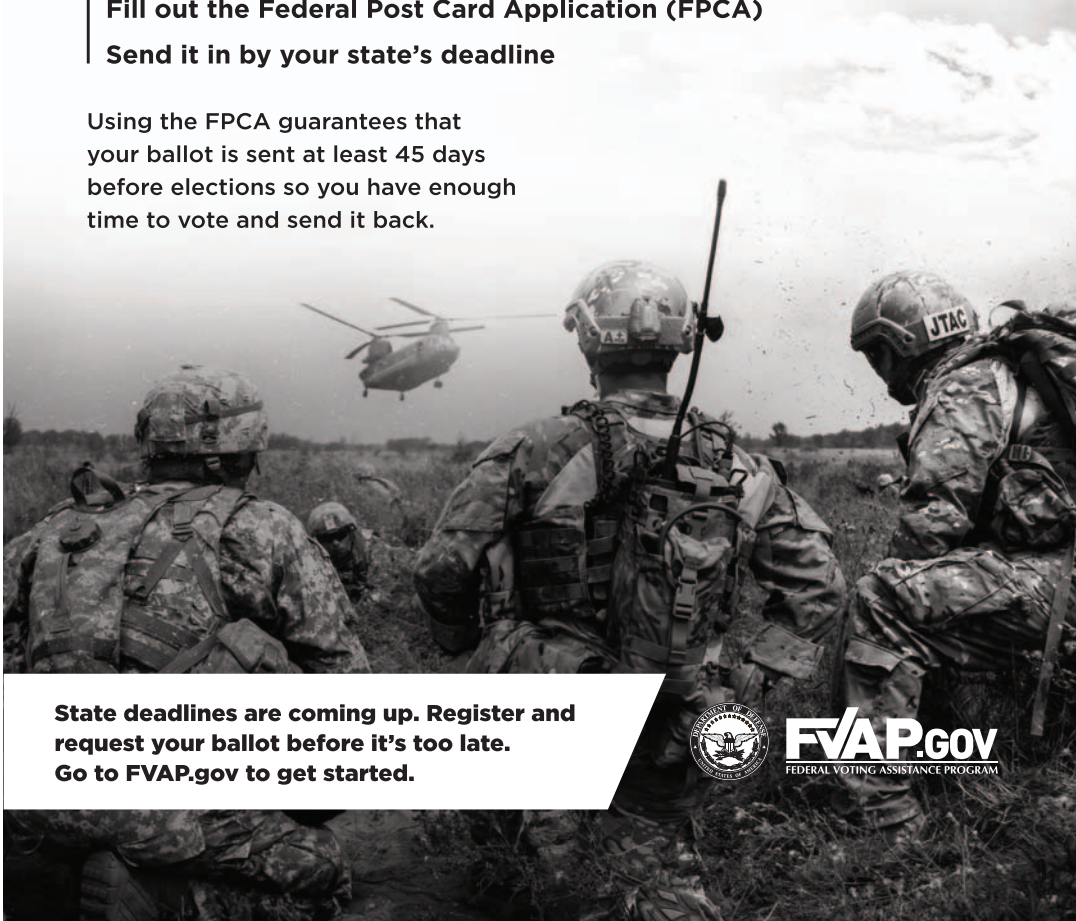
**Send it in by your state's deadline**

Using the FPCA guarantees that  
your ballot is sent at least 45 days  
before elections so you have enough  
time to vote and send it back.

**State deadlines are coming up. Register and  
request your ballot before it's too late.  
Go to [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov) to get started.**



**FVAP.gov**  
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



## MILITARY

# 'Totally awesome:' Brown takes over Pacific Air Forces

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — Gen. Charles Brown Jr. on Thursday became the 14th four-star general to lead Pacific Air Forces.

But Brown sounded more like a wide-eyed teenager than a battle-tested fighter pilot and leader during a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, where he assumed command shortly after being pinned with that fourth star.

"It is totally awesome to be here today," he said to a large audience gathered under a cavernous hangar.

Recalling his first oath of office while an ROTC cadet, he said, "I never really believed I'd get this far. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I'd be standing here on the platform today, wearing a fourth star and taking command of PACAF."

Brown replaces interim PACAF head Lt. Gen. Jerry Martinez, who is also commander of U.S. Forces Japan. Martinez put on the extra hat in April after PACAF Commander Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy became head of U.S. Northern Command.

Brown was commissioned in 1984 and received a master's degree in aeronautical science in 1994. He has commanded a fighter squadron, the U.S. Air Force Weapons School and two fighter wings, including the 8th Fighter Wing, dubbed the "Wolf Pack," at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea.

In your new commander, PACAF has a joint airman who is

recognized as one of the top team builders, warfighting experts, leaders, warriors — not only in the Air Force but in the entire U.S. military," Gen. Stephen Wilson, Air Force vice chief of staff, told the airmen assembled at the ceremony. "That's why he's the right leader at the right time."

Brown commanded U.S. air forces in Southwest Asia from 2015 to 2016 and for the past two years has been deputy commander of U.S. Central Command. In those roles, Wilson said, Brown "was the architect of the air war that decimated the Islamic State" in Iraq.

Brown now commands about 46,000 airmen and civilian personnel based primarily in Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, Guam and South Korea. Roughly 320 fighter and attack aircraft are assigned to Pacific Air Forces, with another 100 aircraft rotating on deployments to Guam.

Adm. Philip Davidson, who took the helm of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command in May, described some of the challenges facing Brown and his airman.

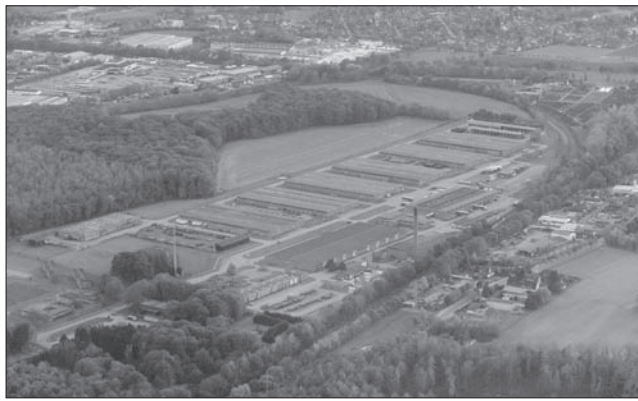
"China continues to improve both the size and the capability of its armed forces and hopes to supplant the U.S. as the security partner of choice, not just in the Indo-Pacific, but across the globe — and on its terms," Davidson said. "Russia continues to modernize its military in all domains and seeks explicitly to undermine the international order and U.S. security guarantees. North Korea remains our most immediate challenge."

He said America's Pacific "joint forces must find new ways to compete below the threshold of armed conflict" to dissuade revanchist powers such as China and Russia from "solving their disappointments through conflict."

olson.wyatt@stripes.com  
Twitter: @WyattWOlson



Brown



Courtesy of the U.S. Army

In June 2017, workers at a U.S. Army warehouse at Tower Barracks in Dulmen, Germany, were exposed to a toxic agent in a shipment of material that contained cadmium, the Army said.

## Army: Workers in Germany exposed to toxic cadmium

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTT GART, Germany — A group of workers at a U.S. Army warehouse in Dulmen, Germany, was exposed to a toxic agent more than a year ago after mishandling a shipment of material that contained cadmium, the Army said.

The incident occurred in June 2017 at Tower Barracks, which is a site used by the Army for prepositioning equipment.

The items were "incorrectly cleaned in a single section of a single warehouse by eight employees," Col. Sean Kuester, commander for U.S. Army Garrison Benelux, told reporters last week, according to a transcript obtained Friday.

David Wright Patterson, a worker who said he was exposed to cadmium at the barracks, told Scotland's Daily Record newspaper on July 23 that workers were offered no protection while he oversaw the cleaning of 50 boxes of contaminated Army equipment

for 10 days.

The incident, which the Army said it didn't discover until March, has led some local residents to express fears about wider contamination.

Cadmium, which is used in batteries, can be dangerous when not handled properly. It is a cancer-causing agent and can cause damage to kidneys and lungs depending on dosage and frequency of contact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

Kuester said the Army should have been more transparent about what happened.

"We know we won't earn your trust if we don't perform better, so we will," Kuester said at a news conference Tuesday.

The Army said the workers who were exposed to cadmium have been tested and are not registering elevated levels of the toxin.

"All eight have been medically tested," Kuester said. "Of the eight, seven were tested through contractor-provided medical ser-

vices and have normal cadmium levels. The eighth individual conducted testing independently and I do not have information on that person's status, as he is no longer an employee here."

That worker is Patterson, who has taken issue with the Army's account. The Scottish national said he was fired from his job at the barracks for blowing the whistle on the incident.

"I've been under a great deal of stress as a whistleblower," Patterson told the Daily Record. "There are another 15 blokes who can't say anything because they will end up getting the sack like me."

Work at Tower Barracks is managed by contractor URS Federal Services, the Army said.

"The contractor has redoubled efforts on safety training and proper methods for receiving, processing, handling and cleaning items that are possibly contaminated with cadmium," Kuester said.

vandiver.john@stripes.com  
Twitter: @john\_vandiver

## Army Garrison Stuttgart ex-provost marshal gets prison for choking wife

By WILL MORRIS  
Stars and Stripes

KLEBER KASERNE, Germany — The former Director of Emergency Services for U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart was sentenced to 18 months in prison Friday and was ordered to be dismissed from the Army for choking his wife during a fight in their home a year ago.

Former Provost Marshal Maj. Jay Guerrero, a 14-year veteran of the Army who served as head of Stuttgart's military police and firefighters, pleaded guilty Friday to aggravated assault.

According to court testimony, on the morning of July 27, 2017, Guerrero and his wife got into an argument, one of many,

that quickly became violent. During the fight, Guerrero grabbed Daisy Guerrero by the throat with his hands and choked her briefly.

Later, he came up behind her, put her into a chokehold in the bend of his elbow and applied pressure on her neck until she blacked out and lost control of bodily functions.

In a statement to the presiding judge, Col. Christopher Fredrikson, Daisy Guerrero said that during the attack, she could feel her life slipping away as she started to black out. Her son was in an adjoining room as she was being choked.

The harder she fought, the worse things got until she was convinced she wouldn't "make it out" of the assault. She testified that as she blacked out, she thought, "My

God, what is going to happen to Jaden?"

She came to, coughing for half an hour, struggling to stand.

Jennifer Markowitz, a forensic nurse, testified that when someone loses control of bodily functions such as bladder control when they are being choked, it is a sign "the brain is essentially shutting down" and death is near.

Jay Guerrero, who on his first deployment as an officer was awarded the Bronze Star with valor device for combat actions in Iraq, testified that he let his emotions go the day of the attack.

He said he was trying to talk with his wife and she refused to let him kiss her, leaving him feeling rejected. A fight broke out and he couldn't hold back.

As his wife dabbed tears from her eyes in the court gallery, he described squeezing her neck until he "felt her legs going weak."

Later, speaking directly to his wife in a broken voice, he took responsibility for the assault and asked for her forgiveness, saying, "I am deeply embarrassed and ashamed of my actions."

Jay Guerrero faced a possible confinement of three years, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances and dismissal from the service. He was taken from the court building on Kleber Kaserne to the U.S. Army Regional Correctional Facility-Europe confinement center at Sembach Kaserne.

morris.william@stripes.com  
Twitter: @willatstripes

## WAR/MILITARY

## US, allies kick off air warfare drills Down Under

By LEON COOK  
Stars and Stripes

Air Force and Marine Corps aviators, along with participants from 16 nations, are engaging in simulated combat above Australia's Northern Territory during Exercise Pitch Black, which began Friday.

"Pitch Black is the Royal Australian Air Force's largest and most important international air defense exercise with several regional, coalition and allied air forces taking part," said Air Vice Marshal Steven Robertson, commander of the operational arm of the RAAF, in a statement.

The drills, which happen every two years, will be held at bases in Darwin

and Tindal over three weeks and will focus on offensive and defensive air operations, according to an RAAF website.

More than 140 aircraft and 4,000 military personnel are involved, including participants from Australia, Canada, France, Indonesia, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Sweden and, for the first time, India, a U.S. Air Force statement said.

Pitch Black began as an Australia-only exercise in the 1980s. Singapore was invited in 1990 and the exercise has grown to include other Australian friends and allies. It is scheduled to conclude on Aug. 17.

cook.leon@stripes.com  
Twitter: @LeonCook12



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Jesse Meyers, left, a power liner assigned to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 122 at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, gives a familiarization class to members of the Royal Australian Air Force No. 17 Squadron Fire and Rescue team in 2016 during Exercise Pitch Black 16 at RAAF Base Tindal, Australia.

Nicole Zurbrugg/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps



MARTIN EGNASH/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers compete in and watch the Street Fighter V tournament Saturday at Grafenwoehr, Germany.

## Soldiers take to virtual streets to display video fighting skills

By MARTIN EGNASH  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — The Army hosted Street Fighter V tournaments at eight bases around the world Saturday in an effort to jump in on the electronic sports craze.

Street Fighter V is a 2-D fighting game in which two fighters use a variety of attacks and special abilities to knock out their opponents.

Soldiers who won the games at

each base were awarded round-trip airfare and lodging to compete live, onstage, at the PAX West Gaming Convention in Seattle, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 3. Competitions were held in the states at Fort Wainwright, Alaska; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Gordon, Ga.; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; Fort Knox, Ky.; and Fort Riley, Kan. Overseas competitions were held at USAG Humphreys, South Korea, and U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria.

Kalynae Williams, a fire con-

trol specialist with the Army's 2nd Cavalry Regiment, won the tournament at Grafenwoehr, using a variety of characters and techniques, including the classic Street Fighter alum, Blanka, to defeat each opponent in the competition.

Williams went undefeated in the tournament.

"I play the game a lot; it just comes second nature to me," Williams said.

egnash.martin@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Marty\_Stripes

## Witnesses: Heavy fighting near Yemen's Hodeida kills dozens

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Heavy fighting along Yemen's west coast between pro-government forces and Shiite rebels in recent days has left dozens dead from both sides, Yemeni officials and witnesses said Sunday.

Government forces, backed by a Saudi-led coalition, have been advancing in the area in recent weeks as they battle Iran-allied rebels known as Houthis. The fighting has escalated as government forces try to retake the port city of Hodeida, the main entry point for food in a country teetering on the brink of famine.

The government has been waging an offensive to seize the rebel-held district of Zabid south of Hodeida, the officials said. The offensive is being waged by ground troops carrying sophisticated weapons, including shoulder-fired missiles, with air cover from the Saudi-led coalition, they said.

The fighting to capture Zabid, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, killed dozens from both sides of Yemen's conflict, now in its fourth year.

The coalition on Sunday targeted rebels in the district of ad-Durayhim, south of Hodeida, with airstrikes, killing at least 18 people, the officials said. The rebels, known as the Houthis, were trying to break into ad-Durayhim,

about 12.5 miles south of Hodeida International Airport, they said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media, while the witnesses did so over fear of reprisals.

Also on Sunday, the coalition said it destroyed missile launch sites in the rebels' northern home base of Saada province, according to a statement carried by Saudi state-run al-Ekhbariya TV.



## MILITARY DISCOUNTS

For all Military ID card holders and their family members:

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Atlanta   | 532 € |
| Charlotte | 466 € |
| Dallas    | 514 € |
| Las Vegas | 510 € |
| Tampa     | 479 € |

Need help? Call us!

0621-72920

www.abctravel.de

Flights from May 16 to June 17, 2018 and from Aug. 27 to Oct. 28, 2018 RT from Germany. Prices starting from, including all taxes, based on availability. Get Military discount fares all year! ABCTravel Service c/o, Gorchowstr. 9, 68309 Mannheim

Partner of DERPART

## Officials: 3 killed in attack in Afghanistan's Nangarhar

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — At least three people were killed after a suicide bomber detonated his explosives vest, paving the way for another attacker to charge into a training center for midwives in the capital of Nangarhar province, an official said Saturday.

Attallah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor, said the three victims — two security guards and a driver — were killed in the first attack near the center's gate.

He added that seven others, including three

security forces, two civilians and two government employees, were wounded in the attack in Jalalabad city, the capital of the eastern Nangarhar province.

It was not immediately clear how many people sustained wounds from the shooting by the attacker inside the building and how many from the bomb, but an investigation is underway, Khogyani said.

The second attacker was not able to detonate his explosives vest and was shot by security forces.

"More than 60 students, teachers and other employees were rescued from the building by the Afghan security forces," said Khogyani.

The battle between the attacker and security forces lasted almost six hours, added Khogyani, because "the forces had to rescue every individual from the building."

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but both Taliban insurgents and fighters from the local Islamic State affiliate are active in eastern Afghanistan, especially in Nangarhar.



## NATION

# Calif. wildfires rage into 4th day

BY JONATHAN J. COOPER  
AND BRIAN MELLE  
*Associated Press*

REDDING, Calif. — Thousands of dazed evacuees struggled to keep their emotions in check while trying to take care of themselves and their pets as a deadly wildfire in Northern California raged into its fourth day.

Anna Noland, 49, was evacuated twice in three days before learning through video footage that the house she last saw under dark and windy skies had burned.

She expected to spend Saturday night at a shelter at Simpson College in Redding while she searches for another place to live.

"I think I'm still in shock," Noland said. "It's just unbelievable knowing you don't have a house to go back to."

Noland is among the 38,000 people evacuated after the Carr Fire roared into the outskirts of Redding in Shasta County, leaving five people dead, including two firefighters, a woman and her two great-grandchildren, ages 4 and 5.

"My babies are dead," Sherry Bledsoe said through tears after she and family members met with Shasta County sheriff's deputies.

A vehicle problem ignited the fire Monday, but it wasn't until Thursday that the fire exploded and raced into communities west of Redding before entering city limits.

On Saturday, it pushed southwest of Redding, the largest city in the region, toward the tiny communities of Oro, Igo and Gas Point, where scorching heat, winds and bone-dry conditions complicated firefighting efforts.

The fire, which grew slightly Saturday to 131 square miles, is the largest fire burning in California. Nearly 5,000 structures were threatened and the fire was just 5 percent contained.

The latest tally of 536 destroyed structures was up from 500 earlier in the day, and sure to rise. A count by The Associated Press found at least 300 of those structures were homes.

The firefighters killed in the blaze included Don Ray Smith, 61, of Bollock Pines, a bulldozer operator who was helping clear vegetation in the path of the wildfire. Redding fire Inspector Jeremy Stoke was also killed, but details of his death were not released.

Sherry Bledsoe's two children, James Roberts, 5, and Emily Roberts, 4, were stranded with their great-grandmother Melody



HECTOR AMEZCUA, THE SACRAMENTO BEE/AP

**A Cal Fire firefighter waters down a back burn on Cloverdale Road, near the town of Igo, Calif., on Saturday. The back burn kept the fire from jumping toward Igo.**

## Experts: Urban sprawl raises wildfire risk

*Associated Press*

REDDING, Calif. — A fire that started in a rural community in Northern California underscored a new reality in the state when days later it suddenly roared through neighborhoods on the edge of the city of Redding: Urban areas are increasingly vulnerable to wildfires.

In the last year, neighborhoods in the Northern California wine country city of Santa Rosa and the Southern California beach city of Ventura have been devastated.

Hotter weather attributed to climate change is drying out vegetation, creating more intense fires that spread quickly from rural areas to city subdivisions, climate and fire experts say. But they also blame municipalities that are expanding housing into previously undeveloped areas.

"There are just places where there should not be subdivisions," said Kurt Henke, a former fire chief in Sacramento who now serves as a consultant to fire organizations. "We're not talking about a single family who wants to build a house in the woods. I'm talking about subdivisions encroaching into the wild land urban interface that put them in the path of these destructive fires."

Henke wants more funding from the state legislature to deploy firefighters to areas where conditions are ripe for fast-moving fires so they can respond quickly if a blaze breaks out.

The fire that affected Redding — a city of about 92,000 people about 250 miles north of San Francisco — started July 23 about 10 miles west of the city before sweeping Thursday through the historic Gold Rush town of Shasta and nearby Keswick. It then jumped the Sacramento River and took out subdivisions on the western edge of Redding.

The state is experiencing longer periods of warm temperatures and dry conditions that are making major fires nearly a year-round possibility, said Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"What we're seeing with some of the most dangerous fires is that they're spreading quickly, burning very hot or producing their own weather," he said.

Still, he agreed with other experts who say the destruction was also the result of more people living closer to fire-prone areas.

"Over the years, we're putting more people in harm's way," he said. "More people living in high fire risk areas than usual."

Smith said he arrived home Thursday as evacuees were racing out. "Save it for your family, save it for your family," he said he reminded himself during two adrenaline-filled hours.

As a former firefighter, he said he always kept an escape route in mind — possibly his neighbor's pool.

On Saturday, he had a blistering burn on his hand from grabbing his propane tank and wrestling it away from the house and into the front yard. His nose and ear also had burns.

"The good news is that our house is here. The bad news is that our neighborhood is devastated," he said.

## Funeral held for last of kin killed in boat sinking

*Associated Press*

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana family that lost nine relatives in the sinking of a duck boat on a Missouri lake was held up as an inspiration Saturday as hundreds of people gathered in their memory.

Gov. Eric Holcomb and Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett were among those at Eastern Star Church for the funeral of Horace Coleman, 70, his wife, Belinda Coleman, 69, Ervin Coleman, 76, Angela Coleman, 45, and her 2-year-old son, Maxwell. It came a day after the services for Glenn Coleman, 40, and his three children: Reece, 9; Evan, 7; and Arya, 1.

The governor attended both ceremonies, and assured their survivors that they are not alone.

Tia Coleman — Glenn Coleman's wife and mother of their children — and her 13-year-old nephew were the only two survivors among 11 Coleman family members who boarded the boat before it sank in a sudden storm on July 19 on Table Rock Lake in Branson, Mo., killing 17 people.

At Saturday's funeral, five caskets were lined up at the front of the church, flowers atop four of them and a U.S. flag on the other.

Pastor A. Thomas Hill said the family will be sustained by its faith.

"How can they deal with such a horrific, traumatic crisis?" told the congregation. "This family, they got a Jesus connection. It's not the end; rather it's the beginning of a new life. That's the hope of this family. Let God be their comfort today."

## Rep. Lewis hospitalized, under observation

ATLANTA — Civil rights icon and U.S. Rep. John Lewis has been hospitalized for undisclosed reasons.

Citing a statement from Lewis' office, WSB-TV reported that the 78-year-old Georgia congressman was "resting comfortably" in a hospital Saturday night for "routine observation."

The statement said Lewis was expected to be released Sunday.

Lewis, a Democrat, played a key role in the civil rights movement and marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1965 in Selma, Ala.

From The Associated Press



Lewis

Bledsoe, 70, when walls of flames swept through the family's rural property Thursday on the outskirts of Redding.

The three were among more than a dozen people reported missing after the furious wind-driven blaze took residents by surprise and leveled several neighborhoods.

Shasta County Sheriff Tom Bosenko said he expects to find several of those people alive and just out of touch with loved ones. Officials have gone to homes of several people reported missing and found cars gone — a strong indication they fled.

Authorities also issued evacuation orders in Napa County, famous for its wine, when several structures caught fire, the Napa Valley Register reported. The

blaze had blackened 150 acres and was at 10 percent containment.

Throughout the state, Cal Fire officials said more than 10,000 firefighters were on the line, making progress on 14 large wildfires.

Big fires also continued to burn outside Yosemite National Park and in the San Jacinto Mountains east of Los Angeles near Palm Springs. Those fires had burned nearly 100 square miles.

Yosemite Valley remained closed to visitors and won't reopen until Friday.

In Shasta County, Matt Smith, a Forest Service pilot with 13 years' experience as a smokejumper, said he used hoses to save his house in the well-kept neighborhood of Lake Redding Estates.

Burned and twisted bicycle frames, refrigerators, and piles of

rubble were still smoking Saturday around his property.

Smith said he arrived home Thursday as evacuees were racing out.

"Save it for your family, save it for your family," he said he reminded himself during two adrenaline-filled hours.

As a former firefighter, he said he always kept an escape route in mind — possibly his neighbor's pool.

On Saturday, he had a blistering burn on his hand from grabbing his propane tank and wrestling it away from the house and into the front yard. His nose and ear also had burns.

"The good news is that our house is here. The bad news is that our neighborhood is devastated," he said.

## NATION

# New VA leader to reassign some appointees

By LISA REIN

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — In one of his first acts as President Donald Trump's Department of Veterans Affairs secretary, Robert Wilkie intends to reassign several high-ranking political appointees at the center of the agency's ongoing morale crisis and staffing exodus, according to three people familiar with his plans.

Wilkie, who will be sworn in Monday, wants to form his own leadership team, these people say, and to ease lawmakers' continued concern that the VA, historically a nonpartisan corner of the government, has become highly politicized. He discussed the proposed personnel moves with Trump in recent days aboard Air Force One, while en route to a veterans convention in Kansas City, Mo., said an official close to the White House who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

Announcements could come as soon as this week, pending approval from the White House Personnel Office.

Carla Gleason, a spokeswoman for Wilkie, declined to comment on specific reassignments, saying in an email last week that "any leadership changes will be announced next week." VA officials received a request for comment to the White House press office, which did not respond.

John Hoelwarth, communications director for AMVETS, an advocacy group with more than 250,000 members, praised Wilkie for acting quickly to ensure the VA "is driven by a desire to serve veterans first."

"Over the last year at VA, widely publicized internal political turmoil among senior officials has gotten in the way of serving veterans, and it seems like Wilkie is acting decisively to stamp that out on his watch," Hoelwarth said.

The changes would sideline much of the VA's interim leadership team under acting Secretary Peter O'Rourke, who drew unfavorable reviews from lawmakers in both political parties following a dispute with the agency's inspector general and a Washington Post report that highlighted O'Rourke's efforts to purge civil servants and some political appointees whom he and others installed by Trump deemed unsupportive of the president's agenda.

O'Rourke, a former Trump campaign worker, had been reassigned to a less visible role overseeing a new office focused on improving VA operations, according to people familiar with Wilkie's plans. The position does not require Senate confirmation.

O'Rourke and others who face reassignment have told Congress they were trying to improve the effectiveness of an agency that has long struggled to provide timely health care and benefits to veterans, and to root out poor performers. Instead, they have



AL DRAGO, BLOOMBERG

**Robert Wilkie, who is to be sworn in as President Donald Trump's Veterans Affairs secretary on Monday, is said to be planning to reassign several high-ranking political appointees at the VA.**

estranged many career staffers who serve veterans day-to-day.

Wilkie, who oversaw military personnel policy at the Pentagon before Trump tapped him to lead the VA, is expected to name Pamela Powers his chief of staff, according to people familiar with Wilkie's plans. She has filled that role for him at the Defense Department.

The VA's general counsel, James Byrne, a Trump appointee, is expected to be named acting deputy secretary. The role has been vacant since Thomas Bowman retired in June. Bowman was isolated by O'Rourke and the other appointees, who viewed him as too moderate.

Wilkie will face multiple challenges leading the VA, which has lacked a permanent leader since Trump fired former secretary David Shulkin in March amid a highly publicized power struggle between Shulkin and O'Rourke and his team.

VA has numerous leadership vacancies. There is no permanent deputy secretary, the department's No. 2 leadership post; there is no undersecretary for the VA's health system, the largest in the country; there is no deputy undersecretary for health; there is no assistant secretary for information technology. Additionally, dozens of senior-level staff have departed the VA amid the turmoil that has marked the past six months, leaving numerous vacancies.

Other expected reassignments include Jacquelyn Hayes-Byrd, the VA's deputy chief of staff, who has served as acting chief of staff since May and carried out the reassignments of many civil servants. Hayes-Byrd may take an acting role in human resources, according to two people familiar with Wilkie's thinking.

John Ulliot, the VA's assistant secretary for public and inter-

governmental affairs, will likely be reassigned to a role running internal communications, these people said. Ulliot, a former Senate aide, openly clashed with Shulkin and left the VA on paid leave for several weeks at the end of Shulkin's tenure, returning after the secretary's firing.

VA press secretary Curt Cashour, a former Capitol Hill

aide who has clashed with reporters, is said to be searching for another job in the Trump administration, according to people familiar with the matter.

Camilo Sandoval, acting chief information officer and the former director of data operations for Trump's campaign — who received poor reviews from lawmakers on his progress over-

seeing a \$16 billion project to modernize the VA's electronic health records system — is expected to leave the administration in coming months, according to a person familiar with his plans.

After the Post's report revealed that O'Rourke had taken aggressive steps to sideline or reassign employees who were perceived to be disloyal, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., moved quickly to get Wilkie in place. Sen. Jon Tester, of Montana, the top Democrat on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and seven other Senate Democrats have called for an investigation into political interference in the VA's "transparency processes."

Three House Democrats this month called on the Justice Department to investigate whether O'Rourke lied during congressional testimony related to a VA inspector general investigation of the agency's Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection.

During Wilkie's confirmation hearing in June, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., told the nominee that sinking morale at the VA would be Wilkie's biggest challenge. According to data compiled by the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service, more than 26,000 full-time employees left the VA last year, with most quitting or retiring.

## WE ARE MOVING!

in the first week of August 2018.



### Our new korea area office will be located at Camp Humphreys Bldg. P-12601

For any inquiries or requests, please contact us at  
[CustomerHelp@stripes.com](mailto:CustomerHelp@stripes.com) or (315)227-7333 (DSN, Tokyo HQ).

#### Stars and Stripes Offices in ROK

■ **New Korea Area Office**  
Camp Humphreys Bldg. P-12601

■ **Yongsan District Office**  
Main Post, Bldg 1479

■ **Daegu District Office**  
Camp Henry, Bldg S-1705

■ **Osan District Office**  
Osan AB, Bldg 937, Room 111

■ **Kunsan District Office**  
Kunsan AB, Bldg 1104, Room 123

## NATION

# Trump threatens government shutdown over border issues

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — President Donald Trump said Sunday that he would consider shutting down the government if Democrats refuse to vote for his immigration proposals, including a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

Republicans, trying to protect their majority in Congress, are playing down the chance of a shutdown as the November election nears. Trump, however, isn't backing away from the idea.

"I would be willing to 'shut down' government if the Democrats do not give us the votes for Border Security, which includes the Wall!" Trump tweeted. "Must get rid of Lottrey, Catch & Release etc. and finally go to system of Immigration based on MERIT!"

"We need great people coming into our Country!" Trump tweeted.

Trump returned to the idea of shutting down the government over the border wall after meeting at the White House last week with House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to discuss the fall legislative agenda.

McConnell, asked about a shutdown during a Kentucky radio interview, said it was not going to happen. He did acknowledge, however, that the border funding issue was unlikely to be resolved before

the midterm elections.

Ryan said after the meeting, "The president's willing to be patient to make sure that we get what we need so that we can get that done." He added that money for the wall was "not a question of if; it's a question of when."

Trump campaigned on the promise of building a border wall to deter illegal immigration and making Mexico pay for it. Mexico has refused.

Congress has given the president some wall funding but far from the \$25 billion he has requested. Trump wants changes to legal immigration, including scrapping a visa lottery program. In addition, he wants to end the practice of releasing immigrants caught entering the country illegally on the condition that they show up for court hearings.

Trump has also demanded that the U.S. shift to an immigration system that's based more on merit and less on family ties.

Democrats and some Republicans have objected to some of the changes Trump seeks.

The federal budget year ends Sept. 30, and lawmakers will spend much of August in their states campaigning for re-election. The House is now in recess, returning after Labor Day. The Senate remains in session and is set to go on break the week of Aug. 6 before returning for the rest of the month. McConnell canceled

most of the Senate's recess to give senators time to work on the annual spending bills that fund government operations.

Both chambers will have a short window to approve a spending bill before government funding expires.

Trump would be taking a political risk if he does allow most government functions to lapse on Oct. 1 — the first day of the new budget year — roughly a month before the Nov. 6 elections, when Republican control of both the House and Senate is at stake.

Some Republican lawmakers doubted the government would be forced to shut down.

Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that he didn't think shutting down the government just before the elections would be helpful "so let's try and avoid it."

Rep. Steve Stivers, R-Ohio, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, the campaign arm for GOP House candidates, agreed.

"I think we're going to make sure we keep the government open, but we're going to get better policies on immigration," he said on ABC's "This Week." "The president, I think, wants to have policies that work for America and work for Americans, and I think that's what we are going to move



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

**President Donald Trump, shown with first lady Melania Trump en route to Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, N.J., on Friday, said Sunday he's willing to shut down the government over immigration and border wall issues.**

forward with."

House Republicans released a spending bill this month that provides \$5 billion next year to build Trump's wall.

Two leading Democrats — Reps. Nita Lowey, of New York, and California's Lucille Roybal-Allard — called the \$5 billion a waste that "only further enables this administration's obsession with cruel attacks on immigrants."

Separately Sunday, Trump tweeted that there are "consequences when people cross our Border illegally" and claimed that many who do so are "using children for their own sinister purposes."

Trump's tweet came several days after the government said more than 1,800 children sepa-

rated at the U.S.-Mexico border under Trump's "zero tolerance" immigration policy have been reunited with parents and sponsors. A federal judge had ordered the reunions to be completed by last Thursday, but hundreds of children remain separated. The administration says some of their parents have criminal histories.

"Please understand, there are consequences when people cross our Border illegally, whether they have children or not - and many are just using children for their own sinister purposes," Trump said.

He also said Congress must fix "the DUMBEST & WORST immigration laws anywhere in the world" and urged voters to "Vote R" in November.

## Gunmen fire into New Orleans crowd, kill 3

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Two armed individuals walked up to a crowd gathered Saturday evening outside a strip mall in New Orleans and opened fire, killing three people and wounding seven more, the police chief said.

The shooting happened on a busy thoroughfare about 3 miles from the French Quarter, police said.

Police chief Michael Harrison, speaking to reporters late Saturday in televised comments, said the two suspects believed to be wearing hoodies had a rifle and a handgun. He said they appeared to have fired indiscriminately

into the crowd, striking 10 people. Before fleeing, they took time to stand over one person.

"We believe that they actually stood over one of the individuals and fired multiple rounds and then after that fled," he said.

Police responding to the shooting found three victims — two men and one woman — who were pronounced dead at the scene. Seven other victims — five men and two women — were taken to two separate hospitals.

Harrison said one underwent surgery and was in critical condition; the other six were in various conditions but none was considered life-threatening.

Harrison spoke with family members and friends at the scene of the "volatile and tense situation." He called on people to come forward and help police find the killers and also asked people not to take matters into their own hands.

"This was an extremely tragic incident," he said. "A lot of people were out here tonight. A lot of people, we know, saw what happened, heard what happened. And we need more than anything for people to come forward to help the NOPD right now solve this case."

He said police do not know whether it was gang-related.

## Prankster puts Putin's portrait in Trump's place

Associated Press

DENVER — The Colorado Capitol's wall of presidential portraits is missing one — President Donald Trump.

KUSA-TV reported the group that collects private donations for the portraits hasn't received a single dollar needed to hang Trump's picture.

But on Thursday, a prankster placed a portrait of Russian President Vladimir Putin on an easel below the blank space on the wall where Trump's portrait would hang.

Putin's portrait was removed by a tour guide, but not before state Sen. Steve Fenberg, D-Boulder, tweeted a picture.

The presidential portraits cost about \$10,000 and are paid for through donations.

Jay Seller, of the Colorado Citizens for Culture, the group that collects the donations, said it took about four months to collect the money for the portraits of former presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush.

## 5 dead in murder-suicide in Texas

Associated Press

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — Police were trying to determine a motive Saturday after they said a man fatally shot four family members at two locations, including his father and stepmother in a Texas nursing home before killing himself there too.

Richard Starry fatally shot himself inside Retama Manor nursing home after killing Ernest Starry, 85, and his wife, Thelma Montalvo, Friday night, said En-

rique Paredez, a police lieutenant in the Corpus Christi suburb of Robstown. A gun was recovered at the scene.

Paredez said a family member later called officers to the couple's home where their 13-year-old adopted son and a 41-year-old son of Montalvo were also found shot to death. The names of the other two sons and Montalvo's age were not released.

The reason behind the shootings was unclear, Paredez said at a Saturday news conference.

Reuben Garcia, whose father lives in the nursing home, was inside the home at the time of the shooting.

"I thought it was just a ladder that had fallen down, that's what it sounded like to me. Then I heard somebody say run, run," Garcia said. "So we ran," getting his father out of the building.

Robstown Police Chief Erasmo Flores said during the news conference that investigators are working "diligently" on the case.



COURTESY SAGCO

CORPUS CHRISTI (TEXAS) CALLER-TIMES/AP

**Robstown, Texas, Police Chief Erasmo Flores speaks Saturday in Robstown.**



# Welcome to the neighborhood.



You rely on your military community  
when you're far from home.

We get that.

Use our community sites to connect and share during  
your time overseas. With base information, travel tips,  
restaurant reviews and even the score of your son's  
high school basketball game, we've got you covered.

Stay connected and hey,  
welcome to the neighborhood.

Visit one of our community sites today!

**Stripes GUAM**  
GUAM.STRIPES.COM

**Stripes OKINAWA**  
OKINAWA.STRIPES.COM

**Stripes KOREA**  
KOREA.STRIPES.COM

**Stripes JAPAN**  
JAPAN.STRIPES.COM

**Stripes EUROPE**  
EUROPE.STRIPES.COM

## NATION

# High court pick's gun views are no mystery

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN  
AND LARRY NEUMEISTER  
Associated Press

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh says he recognizes that gun, drug and gang violence "has plagued all of us." Still, he believes the Constitution limits how far government can go to restrict gun use to prevent crime.

As a federal appeals court judge, Kavanaugh made it clear in a 2011 dissent that he thinks Americans can keep most guns, even the AR-15 rifles used in some of the deadliest mass shootings in recent years.

Kavanaugh's nomination by President Donald Trump has delighted Second Amendment advocates. Gun law supporters worry that his ascendancy to America's highest court would make it harder to curb the proliferation of guns. Kavanaugh has the support of the National Rifle Association, which posted a photograph of Kavanaugh and Trump across the top of its website.

The Supreme Court basically has stayed away from major gun cases since its rulings in 2008 and 2010 declared a right to have a gun, at least in the home, for the purpose of self-defense.

Gun rights advocates believe Kavanaugh interprets the Second Amendment right to bear arms more broadly than does Anthony Kennedy, the justice he would replace. As a first step, some legal experts expect Kavanaugh would be more likely to vote for the court to hear a case that could expand the right to gun ownership or could curtail a gun control law.

Kavanaugh took a "big improvement" over Kennedy, said Eric Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America. Kennedy sided with the majority in rulings in 2008 and 2010 overturning

bans on handgun possession in the District of Columbia and Chicago, respectively, but some gun rights proponents believe he was a moderating influence.

"Kennedy tended to be all over the map" on the Second Amendment, Pratt said.

Former U.S. Rep. Gabby Giffords, the Arizona Democrat who was gravely wounded in a 2011 shooting at a constituent gathering, said in a written statement that Kavanaugh's "dangerous views on the Second Amendment are far outside the mainstream of even conservative thought."

She predicted that Kavanaugh would back the gun lobby's agenda, "putting corporate interests before public safety."

In his 2011 dissent in a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Kavanaugh argued that the district's ban on semi-automatic rifles and its gun registration requirement were unconstitutional.

That case is known as "Heller II" because it followed the Supreme Court's 2008 decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller* that struck down the city's ban on handguns in the home.

Kavanaugh said the Supreme Court held that handguns are constitutionally protected "because they have not traditionally been banned and are in common use by law-abiding citizens."

"Gun bans and gun regulations that are not longstanding or sufficiently rooted in text, history, and tradition are not consistent with the Second Amendment individual right," he wrote in a point rejected by the majority.

Critics contend Kavanaugh's analysis is flawed because AR-15s were not around during the early days of the republic.

In his dissent, Kavanaugh wrote that he had lived and worked in Washington for



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh, center, arrives for a meeting Thursday with Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., on Capitol Hill in Washington.

most of his life and was "acutely aware of the gun, drug, and gang violence that has plagued all of us."

He said few government responsibilities are more significant than fighting violent crime. "That said, the Supreme Court has long made clear that the Constitution disables the government from employing certain means to prevent, deter, or detect violent crime," he wrote.

He said it was unconstitutional to ban the most popular semi-automatic rifle, the AR-15, because it accounted for 5.5 percent of firearms by 2007 and more than 14 percent of rifles produced in the U.S. for the domestic market.

He said semi-automatic rifles had been commercially available since at least 1903, "are quite common in the United States" and the Supreme Court said in a 1994 ruling that they "traditionally have been widely accepted as lawful possessions."

Semi-automatic rifles were used in several mass shootings in recent years, including the February killing of 17 people at a Florida high school.

Kavanaugh rejected the majority's reasoning that semi-automatic handguns were sufficient for self-defense, saying, "That's a

bit like saying books can be banned because people can always read newspapers."

He belittled the description of the guns as "assault weapons," saying that handguns could be called the "quintessential 'assault weapons'" because they are used much more than other guns in violent crimes.

He was equally dismissive of Washington's gun registration protocol, saying it traditionally had not been required in the nation and "remains highly unusual today."

Still, Kavanaugh supported the ban on full automatics or machine guns, reasoning that they "were developed for the battlefield and were never in widespread civilian use."

In 2016, Kavanaugh dissented when two of his colleagues lifted an order blocking the city from enforcing a limit on issuing licenses to carry concealed firearms.

Phil Mendelson, a Democrat and chairman of the D.C. Council, said Kavanaugh's dissent made clear that "his views on gun control are on the extreme side." Councilmember Mary M. Cheh, a Democrat and professor of constitutional law at George Washington University, said she's "worried about the shift to the right, for sure."

## Rebrand underway, 'Koch brothers' still a conservative force

By STEVE PEOPLES  
Associated Press

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The conservative Koch brothers are no more — even if they remain a political powerhouse.

The Democrats' supervillains for much of the past decade quietly have launched a rebranding effort that could vanquish the "Koch brothers" moniker from American politics. The catalyst came earlier in the year when ailing billionaire conservative David Koch stepped away from the family business, leaving older brother Charles as the undisputed leader of the Kochs' web of expanding political and policy organizations.

There were already few, if any, clearly identifiable links between the Kochs and their most active spinoff organizations such as Americans for Prosperity, Freedom Partners or the LIBRE Initiative. But in the days after the younger billionaire's retreat, company officials quickly began pushing journalists across the country to change references from "Koch brothers" in their coverage to "Koch network" or one of their less-recognizable entities.

Asked about the shift Saturday, chief lieutenants explained that Charles Koch, 82, was always more involved with the political efforts than his brother. The elder Koch addressed the shift di-

rectly as he welcomed hundreds of donors to an invitation-only summit at a luxury resort in the Rocky Mountains.

"I am not getting weak in the knees. ... Truly, I am not," Charles Koch said with a smile. He added, "We're just getting started."

Regardless of its name, the conservative network remains one of the nation's most influential political forces, a conservative powerhouse simultaneously playing long- and short-game strategies in a way that ensures it will remain a dominant force long after President Donald Trump is gone. And in sharp contrast to the Republican president who is eager to put his name on his accomplishments, the Kochs are happy to do it in the dark.

While much of the network operates out of sight, the Charles Koch Foundation announced Saturday that it would begin publicly posting all multiyear grant agreements with universities. Last year, the foundation gave \$90 million for projects on 300 campuses.

An estimated 500 Koch donors — each having committed at least \$100,000 annually — gathered for a weekend "senior" retreat that featured a handful of elected officials and high-profile influencers. As is cus-



D. Koch



C. Koch

tomary for the biannual meetings, guests were required to give up their cellphones during some presentations. And while The Associated Press joined a handful of media organizations allowed to witness some activities, photos and videos were strictly prohibited.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott and Tennessee Rep. Marsha Blackburn, both Republican Senate candidates, led the list of elected officials on hand. Senate Republican whip John Cornyn, of Texas; South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott; and Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin also were on the guest list.

The money behind the Kochs' push to transform education, philanthropy, immigration, health care, tax laws, courts, government regulation, prisons and the economy has long been cloaked in secrecy. Koch officials have vowed to spend between \$300 million and \$400 million to shape the 2018 midterm elections. But there's no way to verify how or where the money is spent because most of its organizations are registered as nonprofit groups, which aren't required to detail their donors, unlike traditional political action committees.

While they have long been closely

aligned with the Republican Party's far-right flank, they oppose the Trump administration's policies on spending, trade and immigration.

On Saturday, network leaders seized on Trump's push to apply billions of dollars in tariffs on America's top trading partners. The burgeoning trade war has sparked an outcry from business leaders across the nation, and in a new video, Charles Koch lashes out at what he calls the "destructive" rise of "protectionism."

Koch official Brian Hooks warned that, on trade and immigration, "the divisiveness of this White House is causing long-term damage."

Democrats who invested extraordinary time and resources into attacking the Koch brothers in recent years concede that, in the era of Trump at least, the billionaire industrialists are no longer the left's No. 1 enemy.

Adam Tentleson, who previously worked for a former Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, said Koch's quiet rebranding effort represents "a small victory."

"Sen Reid was always very clear that drawing the Koch brothers out of the shadows was a big part of his strategy," Tentleson said. "He thought people deserved to know who was behind the dark money. This seems like a recognition that they're uncomfortable being out front and are scurrying to get back in the shadows."



# Support the mission

When you're serving at a base in Afghanistan or one of the Gulf States, an American newspaper is an important link to home. At an isolated location like that, you can develop a real hunger for world and national news, stories with a military focus... news that really matters to you.

Stars and Stripes delivers thousands of papers a day downrange, seven days a week — and we count on financial support from our subscribers and advertisers to get those papers to our forward deployed forces. Why? Although part of the Department of Defense, Stars and Stripes is editorially independent and maintaining our independence demands that we meet most of our financial obligations through our own commercial activities. That means selling subscriptions and advertising. Your subscription can make a difference. Donating a mail subscription to a VA hospital or clinic can help even more.

***Subscribe today: [Stripes.com/digital](https://www.strips.com/digital) or email [MemberServices@stripes.com](mailto:MemberServices@stripes.com) for more information.***

STARS AND STRIPES®



## WORLD

# Strong quake in Indonesia leaves at least 14 dead

BY NINIEK KARMINI  
AND ALI KOTARULAM  
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A strong and shallow earthquake early Sunday killed at least 14 people and injured more than 160 on Indonesia's Lombok island, a popular tourist destination next to Bali, officials said.

The magnitude 6.4 quake damaged more than 1,000 houses and was felt in a wider area, including on Bali, where no damage or casualties were reported.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake struck at a depth of only 4.4 miles. Shallow earthquakes tend to do more damage than deeper ones.

East Lombok district was the hardest hit, with 10 deaths including a Malaysian tourist, said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, a spokesman

for Indonesia's Disaster Mitigation Agency. The number of casualties could increase as data were still being collected from other locations on the island, he said.

At least 162 people were injured, including 67 hospitalized with serious injuries, Nugroho said.

The quake caused blackouts in East Lombok and North Lombok districts and triggered a large landslide from Mount Rinjani, an active volcano. Rescuers were evacuating more than 800 tourists from the mountain.

In East Lombok and the provincial capital of Mataram, the quake lasted about 10 seconds, causing residents to flee their homes onto streets and fields, Nugroho said. He said most of the fatalities and injuries were caused by falling slabs of concrete.

Photos released by the disaster



ROSIDIN/AP

**Villagers walk near destroyed homes in an area affected by an early morning earthquake at Sajang village, Sembalun, East Lombok, Indonesia, on Sunday.**

agency showed damaged houses and the entrance to the popular Mount Rinjani National Park, which was immediately closed for fear of landslides.

Eka Fathurrahman, the police chief in East Lombok, said the Malaysian woman who died was part of a group of 18 Malaysian tourists who had just visited Mount Rinjani when the quake jolted their guesthouse

and toppled a concrete wall. Six other people were injured at the guesthouse.

Indonesia is prone to earthquakes due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines in the Pacific Basin. In December 2004, a massive magnitude 9.1 earthquake off Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.

## Hunter dies after walking into minefield in Bosnia

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — One hunter died and another was wounded in Bosnia after they wandered into a minefield left over from Balkan nation's the 1992-95 war.

Authorities said it took a demining team more than five hours on Sunday to reach the man's body, which was deep in the minefield. The blast happened late Saturday near the eastern town of Vozuca.

Bosnia was heavily mined during the conflict between the country's Serbs, Muslims and Croats that followed the breakup of the former Yugoslavia.

Years later, mines are still scattered throughout the country despite ongoing demining efforts.

## Erdogan: Turkey won't cave to US sanctions

ISTANBUL — Turkey's president said his country would not back down if the United States imposes sanctions in a diplomatic dispute involving an arrested American pastor.

Speaking privately to journalists late Saturday, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan broke his silence on the crisis, saying, "They cannot make Turkey back down with sanctions."

On Thursday, President Donald Trump announced possible sanctions against Turkey, a crucial NATO ally, in retaliation for the treatment of Andrew Craig Brunson, who was detained in the aftermath of a failed 2016 coup against Turkey's government.

Brunson denies the charges against him.

## Egypt: 6 hurt when train derails near Aswan

LUXOR, Egypt — Egyptian authorities said a passenger train derailed near the southern city of Aswan and at least six people were injured.

The Transportation Ministry said the accident took place Sunday when eight of the train's carriages derailed near the Salwa station in Kom Ombo, north of Aswan. It was not immediately clear what caused the derailment.

The accident comes two weeks after another passenger train derailed in Cairo's twin city of Giza in which at least 55 people were injured.

## Report: Fugitive Chinese police officer returns

BEIJING — A police officer who was among China's top 100 international fugitives has returned from the United States to face charges of taking bribes, a state news agency said Sunday.

Zhang Yongguang became the 54th fugitive former official to return from abroad amid a marathon government campaign to capture corruption suspects abroad, the Xinhua News Agency said.

Zhang, who worked in the southern city of Shenzhen, fled the country in 2010, Xinhua said.

It gave no details of the charges against Zhang or possible penalties, but news reports in 2010 said he was accused of taking \$135,000 from a crime suspect.

From The Associated Press



TAKUYA INABA, KYODO NEWS/AP

**A resident piles sandbags near houses Saturday in preparation for an approaching typhoon at Kure city, Hiroshima prefecture, southwestern Japan.**

# Powerful typhoon hits flood-ravaged Japan

apa

TOKYO — More than 20 people were injured and tens of thousands ordered to evacuate their homes on Sunday as Typhoon Jongdari hit flood-battered western Japan, local media reported.

The season's 12th typhoon caused damage to homes and buildings in central and western Japan, broadcaster NHK reported.

The storm also led to the cancellation of 168 flights and some train services were canceled, according to NHK.

The typhoon had weakened after making landfall at the city of Ise, 198 miles southwest of Tokyo, around 1 a.m., according

to the Meteorological Agency.

The agency warned of mudslides, flooding, swollen rivers and high waves.

Rainfall of up to 7.8 inches was forecast for the islands of Shikoku and Kyushu and up to 5.9 inches for the Tokai region by Monday noon, according to the agency.

Earlier this month, heavy rains triggered floods and landslides in western Japan, killing about 220 people. About 4,000 remain in emergency shelters.

The storm has cooled Japan, which had been sweltering under an intense heat wave for nearly two weeks. About 100 people died from heatstroke this month as temperatures reached record highs.

# Iraq's prime minister suspends electricity official amid protests

BY SINAN SALAHEDDIN  
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister on Sunday suspended the country's electricity minister over a power crisis amid mushrooming protests as the country's Shiite heartland demanding better services and jobs.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi made the announcement on his Twitter account, saying the suspension of Qasim al-Fadhawi, the electricity minister, would last until an investigation is concluded. He did not elaborate.

Despite billions of dollars spent since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion toppled dictator Saddam Hussein, many Iraqi cities and towns are still experiencing severe power cuts and rolling blackouts.

The issue has partly fueled this month's protests in Iraq's southern Shiite heartland, mainly in the energy-rich province of Basra, where demonstrators have demanded more jobs and better services.

The protests turned violent earlier this month when security forces opened fire on the angry mobs attacking and burning government offices and the offices of political parties. Several protesters were killed and wounded, while others were arrested.

The suspension came a day

after the country's elections commission, run by judges appointed after widespread allegations of fraud and irregularities in the May 12 general elections, endorsed al-Abadi's recommendations to sack five election officials.

In a statement issued Saturday, the spokesman for the Independent High Elections Commission, Judge Laith Jabr Hamza, said the five were sacked over charges of "irregularities, manipulation and financial corruption."

They are the directors of the commission's offices in the provinces of Salahuddin, Anbar and Kirkuk, as well as offices for the Iraqi diaspora in neighboring Jordan and Turkey. Hamza did not elaborate.

The commission is in the process of conducting a partial recount of the ballots, both from inside and outside Iraq. The process has delayed the ratification of the final election results and has prolonged the process of forming the new government.

The initial election results gave a bloc organized by populist Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr the largest share, with 54 seats in the 329-seat parliament. It was followed by an Iran-backed bloc — made up of Shiite militias — which won 47 seats, and al-Abadi's alliance, with 42 seats.

## WORLD

## Tears, grief mark service for Greek fire victims

By COSTAS KANTOURIS  
Associated Press

MATI, Greece — Hundreds of mourners attended a memorial service in a sea-side Greek village Sunday for the dozens of people who perished when a fast-moving wildfire swept through a coastal area east of Athens.

The senior local Greek Orthodox Church official, Bishop Kyrillos, presided over the service at Dormition of the Virgin Mary Church in Mati, a popular resort spot that was the place hit hardest by the blaze that killed at least 86 people.

The fire that sped flames through the village without warning July 23 was the deadliest wildfire in Europe since 1900, according to the International Disaster Database run by the Centre for the Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters in Brussels.

Kyrillos said the community is mourning the loss of family, neighbors and friends.

"There's fewer of us now than usually. It is the victims of the recent fire that are missing — friends, relatives and acquaintances, next-door people that we saw every day in town and on the beach," the bishop said during the memorial service.

The vast majority of victims died in the flames, though a number drowned in the sea while fleeing the fire.

Dozens of volunteer divers kept searching the sea off Mati on Sunday looking for the bodies of more possible victims. Greek officials have not made public how many people remain missing since the fire.

Local resident Angeliki Galitsatou said she narrowly managed to escape the fire that killed others in their cars and homes.

"I came to pray for the people who were lost and I pray that God blesses us all," she said.

Greek authorities have said they have reason to believe the fire resulted from arson and turned so deadly because winds of up to 62 mph buffeted the pine-forested seaside resorts at the time.

The Greek government also has come under criticism for how buildings and roads were laid out in the area and a perceived lack of adequate preparation for fire seasons. More than 2,000 homes were damaged in the fire and roughly a quarter will have to be demolished, Greek officials said Friday.

The Holy Synod made up of all Greek bishops said in a letter read out loud at Sunday's memorial service that everyone bears responsibility for protecting the environment from haphazard development.

"What words of comfort can you offer the mother who lost her child? What words of comfort can you offer the mother, the grandparents in whose arms their grandchildren were found?" Kyrillos said. "What words of solace can you offer a mother who has lost her baby and left a few flowers on the beach?"



YOROS KARAHALIS/AP

Orthodox faithful attend a memorial service Sunday in a church at Mati village, east of Athens, Greece, for the victims of a forest fire.

## Wildfires rage in Europe amid heat wave

By MELISSA ETHEAD  
Los Angeles Times

As a scorching heat wave engulfs large parts of Europe this summer, fires have torn through dozens of countries across the European Union.

From Germany to France to Sweden, countries in Western Europe are set for another intense heat wave this week with temperatures soaring above 90 degrees, weather forecasters said.

The risk of forest fires remains high as above-normal heat is expected to continue into August. Some parts of eastern Germany have not had rain since April, according to weather forecasters.

As firefighters continue to battle treacherous blazes that have killed scores of people, here's a look at what some European countries face as wildfires continue to scorch large swaths of land:

■ **Sweden.** As an unusual heat wave continues to engulf Sweden, with temperatures reaching above 90 degrees just north of the Arctic Circle, at least 40 wildfires are burning across the country — home to more than 9 million people and an amazing array of wildlife.

Some fires were sparked by thunderstorms, officials said, with an estimated 62,000 acres burned so far.

Italian planes and Norwegian helicopters have been fighting the fast-moving flames, according to local media, and more help from other European countries, including France and Germany, is on the way.

Strong winds will continue to push the fire, creating challenges for firefighters, according to weather forecasters with European Forest Fire Information System.

No deaths or injuries have been reported, but officials warned thousands of people to be vigilant and stay indoors because of poor air quality caused by smoke and ash, local media reported.

■ **Finland.** Firefighters are still battling several wildfires in Finland as meteorologists with the Finnish Meteorological Institute warn that there's a high risk more blazes could ignite in the southern and central regions, where there was a brief reprieve because of rain and subsiding winds.

Over the next five days, dry, warm weather — with the chance of winds — is forecast.

Fires have scorched forested areas in Lapland, a northern province near the border with Russia.

■ **Norway.** Firefighters have been battling wildfires in various parts of Norway since May. The fires, now mostly under control, became deadly when, in late July, a firefighter died battling a blaze in southern Norway. Earlier this year, the country experienced record heat.

Dry terrain in the Scandinavian country created ample fuel for the fires.

"It is extremely dry in the countryside and the forest fire index is sky-high," Mathias Drange, the head of the firefighting response unit, told local media in May. "In this case the alarm was fortunately raised in good time so we have a good chance of controlling the fire."

■ **Latvia.** Wildfires have scorched more than 1,600 acres since July 17, according to the European Forest Fire Information System.

Officials requested foreign assistance about a week later to fight the large forest fires. The extreme heat has made it difficult for firefighters to put out the fires and the weather outlook looks grim.

Warm weather is expected to continue, according to officials, and resources to battle the flames are stretched thin.

## Palestinian protest figure Tamimi released from Israeli prison

Associated Press

NABI SALEH, West Bank — Palestinian protest figure Ahd Tamimi returned home to a hero's welcome in her West Bank village on Sunday after Israel released her from prison at the end of her eight-month sentence for slapping and kicking Israeli soldiers.

Ahd, 17, and her mother, Nariman Tamimi, were greeted with banners, cheers and Palestinian flags as they entered the home village of Nabi Saleh.

Ahd Tamimi was arrested in December after she slapped two Israeli soldiers outside her family home. Her mother filmed

the incident and posted it on Facebook, where it went viral and, for many, instantly turned Ahd Tamimi into a symbol of resistance to Israel's half-century-old military rule over the Palestinians. With her unruly mop of curly, light-colored hair, the Palestinian teen quickly became an icon and an internationally recognizable figure.

In Israel, however, she is seen by many as either a provocateur, an irritant or a threat to the military's deterrence policy.



A. Tamimi

In Nabi Saleh, supporters welcomed Tamimi home with Palestinian flags planted on the roof of her home. Hundreds of chairs were set up for well-wishers in the courtyard.

"The resistance continues until the occupation is removed," Tamimi said upon her return. "All the female prisoners are steadfast. I salute everyone who supported me and my cause."

From her home, she headed to a visit to the grave of the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Her father, Bassem Tamimi, said he expects her to take a lead in the struggle against Israeli occupation, but she is also

weighing college options.

In a sign of her popularity, a pair of Italian artists painted a large mural of her on Israel's West Bank separation barrier ahead of her release. Israeli police said they were caught in the act along with another Palestinian and were arrested for vandalism.

Ahd Tamimi was 16 when she was arrested and turned 17 in custody.

Her case has trained a spotlight on the detention of Palestinian minors by Israel, a practice that has been criticized by international rights groups. Some 300 minors are currently being held, according to Palestinian figures.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## State offers free gear, sites to new campers

**VT** MONTPELIER — Vermont is offering first-time campers free equipment and campsites this summer at state parks to try to get more people to visit.

More than 600 people have signed up to be picked for 30 individual slots for the happy camper weekends offered in July and August.

The state parks loan the winning campers a tent, stove, lantern and some sleeping pads. Staff help the campers set up their campsite and give them a tour of the park.

## Store clerk trying to stop beer theft killed

**AL** TUSCALOOSA — Tuscaloosa police filed murder charges in the death of a store clerk who authorities say was killed while trying to stop the theft of beer.

Authorities said Dewan Latrell Hampton, 32, and Michael Wayne Burrell, 52, are charged in the death of Shelia Corley Britton, 56.

Police said two men stole three 12 packs of beer worth \$45 from a convenience store where Britton was working late on July 22. Britton suffered severe head injuries while attempting to stop the alleged getaway car.

Britton was taken off life support late Thursday, and the two men were arrested on Friday.

## Tiger cub abandoned at border gets new home

**TX** WYLLIE — A live tiger cub that was abandoned in a ducting bag at the U.S. border is settling into his new home in Texas.

Kenobi arrived Thursday night at In-Sync Exotics, an animal sanctuary in Wylie, 30 miles northeast of Dallas.

U.S. Border Patrol agents discovered the cubs Aug. 30 while patrolling the Rio Grande near Brownsville. They said three people apparently trying to enter the U.S. illegally dumped the bag containing the tiger and fled back to Mexico.

Kenobi was initially given a temporary home at the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, but his move to In-Sync Exotics is permanent.

## Couple alleges Realtor kept cats at their house

**FL** VALRICO — A Florida couple is suing their real estate agent, alleging she never told them she'd been keeping abandoned cats at the house they bought.

Ben Z. McKay and Katherine Pulker said they pulled out air fresheners and turned on the air conditioner shortly after buying the house and immediately noticed the overpowering stench of cat urine. They still haven't moved in.

The Tampa Bay Times reported they're suing Realtor Deborah Clark and Link Realty for negli-

## THE CENSUS

**107**

**The age of an Illinois school being demolished.** As part of the project, pieces of history are available to the public, which has been invited to take a free brick or two from Walker Elementary in Rockford as keepsakes. Margo Seiter picked up a brick Friday, telling the Rockford Register Star, "This is part of history." She was a sixth-grade student at Walker. The demolition began on July 10. Walker was closed in 2016 as part of a plan to shutter eight schools and upgrade other buildings. The property will be turned into a park.



HEATHER ROUSSEAU, THE ROANOKE (Va.) TIMES/AP

## Soap fest at FloydFest

**Maddie Wagner, 15, center, of Roanoke, Va., and Sarah Norman, 15, of Salem, Va., get sprayed in a soap house during FloydFest 18—Wild, which ran through the weekend in Floyd, Va. The festival describes on its website five days of "music, magic and mountains featuring adventure, vendors, food, brews and more than 100 artists."**

gence, breach of contract and failure to disclose hidden defects that left the house "uninhabitable."

## Sentence of man who flipped off judge upheld

**SD** PIERRE — South Dakota's Supreme Court has rejected an appeal from a man who got a harsher prison sentence after he flipped the bird at the judge in his case.

The high court on Wednesday upheld the sentence of Shawn Ross, 39, who had agreed to plead guilty to burglary for trying to pry a change machine off a Chamberlain car wash wall in 2017.

The circuit judge sentenced Ross to five years in prison with 3½ years suspended. But after the judge saw Ross flip him off as he left the courtroom, he reimposed the suspended time.

When Ross filed for resentencing, the judge relented and reduced the suspended portion by two months. The high court upheld that sentence.

## 2 praised for returning wallet containing \$700

**CO** AURORA — A sister and brother in Colorado are being praised for returning a wallet that contained about \$700 in cash.

Haylie Wenke, 13, and Reagan Wenke, 6, are seen on home surveillance video approaching the front door of an Aurora home, where a robotic voice told them to leave a message. Haylie said they had found a wallet outside a car and were returning it so no one would take the money.

Haylie told KDVR-TV they were riding their bikes to a water park when they spotted the wallet.

## Woman climbs 285-foot cell tower, is arrested

**OH** WOOSTER — Authorities said a woman who climbed to the top of a 285-foot-high cell tower and then taunted police and safety personnel on her way down was arrested.

The Wooster Daily Record reported a passer-by spotted the woman at the top of the tower in Wayne Township about 6:30 p.m. Thursday and called 911. She descended on her own about 9:15 p.m. as hundreds of onlookers watched from below.

Wayne County Sheriff's Capt. Doug Hunter said the woman, wearing jeans, a T-shirt and flip-flops, appeared to be high on drugs because she showed no fear on the tower.

## Tourist gets locked inside historic fortress

**NY** NEW YORK — A woman visiting New York City said she got locked inside a historic fortress and prison and was stuck for about an hour because a guard didn't have a key.

Shakira Stover, 35, told the New York Post she was walking around Castle Williams on Governors Island on Wednesday when the doors were closed and padlocked.

An American who lives in Spain, Stover said she screamed for help and got the attention of a

pair of British tourists, who summoned a guard. Stover said the guard didn't have a key and had to get a park ranger to punch in the padlock code.

## Veteran gets 4 years for 7 bank robberies

**NH** CONCORD — A New Hampshire man was sentenced to four years in federal prison for robbing seven banks in 2017.

WMUR-TV reported Chaka Meredith, of Laconia, 43, said he was deeply ashamed of his actions. He was arrested in February 2017 in Lawrence, Mass. Prosecutors said Meredith didn't show a weapon during any of the robberies, but he passed notes described as threatening.

Before the robberies, Meredith had no criminal record and served honorably in the Marines. Meredith said he was in a car accident, became addicted to pain pills, and turned to robbery to feed his habit.

From wire reports



## FACES

## Summer sounds

Music helped movie actors find their characters

By RICK BENTLEY  
Tribune News Service

**“H**ot Summer Nights” director/writer Elijah Bynum uses music to soothe the savage beast of acting. Before filming started on his feature, which looks at sex, drugs and a hurricane in the early '90s, he gave his lead actors a list of songs to listen to while forming their characters.

The film follows the socially awkward Daniel Middleton (Timothée Chalamet), who turns his summer on Cape Cod into a lucrative drug business. That has him working with the town bad boy, Hunter Strawberry (Alex Roe), while falling in love with Hunter's sister, McKayla (Maika Monroe), considered the most desirable girl in town.

Roe was told by Bynum to listen to the Ramones, AC/DC and Led Zeppelin.

“The music he selected was less about the time period and more about what Hunter would be listening to. I feel like people at that time were probably listening to '70s music,” Roe said.

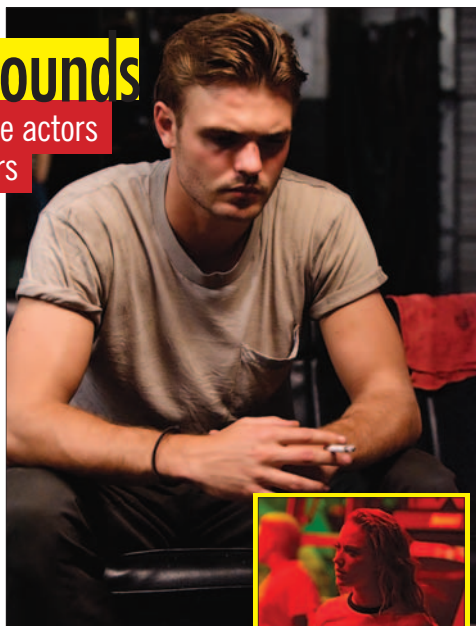
The reason Roe can only speculate is the young British actor was born in 1990. He started working as an actor on a regular basis as a teenager with the 2005 TV series “The Fugitives.” Since then, he's appeared in feature films plus the TV shows “Hollyoaks” and “Freeform's “Siren,” in which he currently plays a marine biologist who finds himself drawn to a girl in town who's hiding a dark secret.

Roe did his research on the era and worked hard to develop a Cape Cod accent. The work helped him slip into the role he strongly wanted to play because of the character's complexity.

“That's what drew me to the role. You start off with the town bad boy, but then you slowly have the layers of the character unveiled and a little bit more of his vulnerabilities get exposed,” Roe said. “I feel like I could relate to Hunter in some ways, but also what I learned from playing Hunter was that the greater the front, the deeper the insecurities.

“Hunter has to have this front in order to make money. If people aren't scared of him in some way, they won't take him seriously.”

Bynum — who had a difficult time finding the right actor to play Hunter — pointed out the reason the performance by Roe works so well is he and Hunter are exact opposites. The direc-



Get news and reviews of this season's flicks  
[stripes.com/go/summermovies](http://stripes.com/go/summermovies)

tor is certain that's what allowed Roe to attack the character by exploring someone who was far removed from himself in real life.

For Monroe, his listening list included female artists such as The Bangles, Blondie and The Go-Gos.

“I wanted her to get that bad girl rebel energy,” Bynum said. “Then the actors went off and did their own research and found pieces they thought would work for their character.”

Monroe was open to the idea of using song selections to help form the character because she finds music to be a very powerful force. In creating McKayla, she mirrored the kind of raw energy she found with each of the female rock groups.

Monroe comes to the role with an acting foundation she has been cultivating since she was a teen with the TV series “Eleventh Hour.” Since then she has appeared in movies including “Independence Day: Resurgence,” and she's currently starring in the



The director/writer of “Hot Summer Nights” gave actors Alex Roe, top, and Maika Monroe, above, a playlist to listen to while forming their characters.

PHOTOS BY A24/AP

Netflix sci-fi thriller “Tau.”

The California native almost took a different career path as she is one of the top-ranked female kiteboarders in the world. Acting dominates her days now, but the years she spent in sports competitions have been a big boost to her as an actor. “It's helped immensely in the sense of drive and knowing you can do anything,” Monroe said. “The thing that was hard for me when I was doing sports professionally and trying to decide if I wanted to continue acting was that with a sport you have control over it. You train and you see progress. I can train for a trick and land it. I will get X amount of points from the judges. If I were to work on an audition, I can't see any physical change.”

“Then I can walk in and they will say that's not what we are looking for. I left acting for a little while because of all the negativity, but I came back.”

## Cardi B isn't touring after all: 'I underestimated this whole mommy thing'

Cardi B needs some more time with her newborn daughter.

The 25-year-old “Bodak Yellow” rapper announced Thursday that she won't be joining Bruno Mars on his 24K Magic World Tour and will instead stay home with Kulture, who was born barely two weeks earlier.

“I thought that after giving birth to my daughter that 6 weeks would be enough time for me to recover mentally and physically. I also thought that I'd be able to bring her with me on tour, but I think I underestimated this whole mommy thing,” the Bronx-born rapper said in a statement on Instagram on July 26.

“Not only am I just not ready physically, I'm not ready to leave my baby behind since the doctors explained it's not healthy for her to be on the road. I hope you guys understand that this decision has been the hardest to make but I have to do what's best for myself and my baby!”

Mars responded on his own Instagram page, saying that Cardi B's health was the priority. “I know the fans will understand. You are absolutely doing the right thing,” he wrote. “I also know we'll share the stage when the time is right.”

The rapper gave birth to Kulture on July 10.

Cardi B was supposed to begin her tour with Mars in early September in Denver, with stops in Philadelphia, Boston, Brooklyn and Los Angeles.

## Barr on tweet: 'I wish I worded it better'

In Roseanne Barr's first TV interview since her ABC sitcom was canceled for a racist tweet, the comedian apologized for her “ill-worded” post and insisted she is not a bigot.

During her hourlong interview on Sean Hannity's Fox News Channel show Thursday, Barr lamented the damage done to her by her tweet about Valerie Jarrett, a former adviser to President Barack Obama. “It cost me everything,” Barr said. “I wish I worded it better.”

Hannity repeatedly urged Barr to apologize to Jarrett on air. The comedian eventually did, saying that she was sorry for the poorly worded tweet. She said she would tell Jarrett: “I'm sorry that you feel hurt and hurt. I never meant that. I never meant to hurt anybody.”

She repeated her assertion that she did not know Jarrett was black when she likened Jarrett to a cross between the Muslim Brotherhood and a “Planet of the Apes” actor.

Barr repeatedly said that her tweet was meant to address U.S.-Middle Eastern tensions and had no racial overtones. She said she was stunned by the negative reaction to the tweet. “I am a creative genius, and this is not a good feeling for an artist to be treated this way, and it's not a good feeling for a citizen, either.”

Despite apologizing at times, Barr also said she felt the tweet was being mischaracterized and she indicated she felt she had apologized enough for her actions.

“I feel like I have apologized and explained and asked for forgiveness and made recompense,” she said early in the interview. At another point, just before addressing Jarrett directly, Barr said, “I already have said I'm sorry for two months.”

She said she could have fought ABC over her firing, but that she walked away from the hit reboot because she didn't want to lose her job. She said her contract was supposed to allow her to correct any misstatements she made within 24 hours, but she wasn't given the opportunity.

## Other news

■ Elvis Costello's first studio album in five years, “Look Now,” which also is his first new recording with his band the Imposters in a decade, is slated for release Oct. 12. The album includes a dozen songs, most written solely by Costello but also featuring two he wrote with veteran composer Burt Bacharach and one in tandem with songwriter Carole King.

■ Michael Buble and Laisana Loplatto are the new parents of a baby girl. Buble's representative told The Associated Press that Vida Amber Betty was born July 25 in Vancouver.

■ Lauryn Hill won't be late for some of the shows on her Miseducation 20th anniversary tour — because she's canceled them entirely. The 43-year-old musician, who has angered fans with her near constant tardiness on tour, won't hit stops in North Carolina, Florida, New Jersey and Virginia. Live Nation announced Thursday, citing “unforeseen production issues.”

From wire reports

## Kristen Stewart to lead ‘Charlie’s Angels’

Kristen Stewart is set to star in Elizabeth Banks' reboot of “Charlie's Angels.” Sony Pictures on Thursday said Stewart's fellow Angels will be played by Naomi Scott and Ella Balinska.

Banks is directing, producing, co-writing and starring as Rosley in the new incarnation of the Angels saga. Banks says in a statement that

“Charlie's Angels” is one of the original brands to celebrate the empowered woman. The statement says this film will introduce a new era of modern and global Angels.

Sony Pictures will release the new “Charlie's Angels” in North American theaters in September 2019.

From The Associated Press



ARTHUR MOLA, INVISION/AP



# Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Attorneys

178

Transportation

944

**UPI2**  
RECHTSANWÄLTE  
FACHANWÄLTE | NOTARE

## U.S. & GERMAN ATTORNEYS

US & German Divorces • Support Issues  
Wills and Probate • Employment  
ERC • ADR • Personal Injury  
Contractor Issues • Tax

CALL 069-299-2069-0  
email: moiss@up12legal.de

Attorneys

178

Transportation

944

**Court & Carpenter**  
MILITARY DEFENSE LAWYERS

**EUROPE'S PREMIER  
COURT-MARTIAL  
DEFENSE FIRM**

Over 45 years  
defending  
service members

Sauerwiesen 2, Kaiserslautern-Siegebach,  
Germany 67661 • Call 0176 2005 2265  
[www.militarylawfirm.com](http://www.militarylawfirm.com)

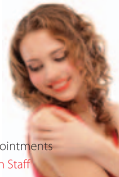
Dental

902

## American Doctors & Staff

### Services Offered:

Family Dentistry  
Certified Orthodontics  
Crowns and Veneers  
Implant Surgery  
Zoom Teeth Whitening  
Wisdom Teeth Surgery  
Nitrous Oxide  
Saturday & Evening Appointments  
Caring, Friendly American Staff



### LOCATIONS

**Wiesbaden Dental Care**  
06119 887 2650  
Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden  
[Wiesbadendental.com](http://Wiesbadendental.com)

**Ramstein Dental Care**  
06371 406230  
Post Strasse 1, 66877 Ramstein  
[Ramsteindental.com](http://Ramsteindental.com)

Certified American Dental Hygienists  
TRICARE Preferred Provider

## VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

### For Further Information Please Contact

GERMANY +49-(0)6134-2592730 UNITED KINGDOM +44-(0)1638-515714  
Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk  
E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de www.carshipuk.co.uk  
WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de info@tgal.us www.tgal.us

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

**Trans Global**  
LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH



Transportation

944

Transportation

944

**Interglobal Shipping GmbH**  
Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada  
Autos, Household Goods, Personal Belongings  
Contact your Pro's at the Docks today!!  
[info@interglobalshipping.de](mailto:info@interglobalshipping.de)  
[www.interglobalshipping.de](http://www.interglobalshipping.de)

Tel: (0421) 540-6550 Fax: (0421) 540-6565  
Toll free: 0800-000-6311

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

**WSA**  
WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENTS

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri  
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)  
For a free rate request, please email: [info@worldwide-ship.de](mailto:info@worldwide-ship.de)  
Visit our Website: [www.worldwide-ship.de](http://www.worldwide-ship.de)

## Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!

Concerts, events, TV,  
movies, music, video games,  
celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

**STARS AND STRIPES**

## Be the one who really knows what's going on!



Never miss a **Stars and Stripes**.  
We report on issues that affect you the most,  
covering military news from Capitol Hill to Europe,  
Pacific, the Middle East and the Pentagon.  
No one covers the bases the way we do.  
Wherever you need us, however you read us:  
**Stars and Stripes is always for you.**

**STARS AND STRIPES**

In print • Online at [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

## Round-the-world news for America's military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill. Also available on mobile apps for iPhone and Android and in a Tablet Edition for iPad.

**STARS AND STRIPES**

Mobile • Online • Print



## OPINION

## EDITORIAL

## BUREAU STAFF

## CIRCULATION

## CONTACT US

## OMBUDSMAN

**stripes.com**

## Putin's spy service is modern, multiplatform

The Russians floated their covert action

"To put it crudely, the FSB does the kinds of things everyone else thinks about doing but doesn't because they're too risky, too politically inflammatory, or too likely to backfire," wrote Mark Galeotti, an expert on Russian intelligence, last year in *The Atlantic*.

This is not your grandfather's KGB. Putin is running a multiplatform spy service for the internet era — as quick, disposable and potentially devastating as a Snapchat image.

## A picture of a brighter future – on Twitter, no less

His fame began when a YouTube algorithm steered a Houston teen to a video of the classroom debate, produced by student journalists at Shawnee Mission East High School in Kansas. The Houston tweeter, using the handle [@chulupjlm](#), posted Justice's star turn on July 6, noting: "white boy pulled out the receipts." Her post spread, and by Tuesday, the clip had been viewed more than 8 million times, liked by more than 300,000 people and shared by more than 100,000. Not bad for an analysis of the Confederate constitution.

The rollicking result was passionate, informed, often clever. Sometimes pleading, sometimes faltering, but never cruel. I agree with young Mr. Justice that slavery was the root of the Civil War, and, whatever the flag stood for in the 1860s, by the 1960s it was a symbol of white supremacy. But the counter-argument that the South seceded

Hurry, please. In the meantime, I draw hope from knowing that brave teachers in classrooms across the country are still modeling the virtues of civil debate. To-day's students, digital natives, may be less likely than their non-native elders to be led astray by technology. If their parents and grandparents can resist the current urge to cleave the country, the kids will be alright.

David Von Drehle is a Washington Post columnist. He is the author of "Rise to Greatness: Abraham Lincoln and America's Most Perilous Year."

## OPINION

## We must help Puerto Rico before it sinks

BY ANA MARIE ARGILLAGOS, AARON DORFMAN AND NELSON I. COLÓN  
Special To The Washington Post

It is dusk in Mariana, a barrio in the coastal resort town of Humacao, which sits at the epicenter of Hurricane Maria's landfall. The streets are dark but not silent. Mariana still has no power or running water, but there are voices and laughter as people cook dinner together over makeshift outdoor stoves. Mariana's residents, like many other Puerto Ricans, are making the best of a desperate situation.

The resourcefulness of the Puerto Rican people in the face of Hurricane Maria's devastating impact is admirable. But it only goes so far. Puerto Rico is far from recovery, and the 2018 hurricane season is already upon us.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency admitted this month that it failed to prepare properly to mobilize the robust response that Puerto Rico needed. Today, about 1,000 Puerto Rican families taking part in FEMA's transitional housing program are still living on the brink of homelessness as a result of the storm, and that doesn't include evacuees who have likely gotten lost in the system as we saw after Hurricane Katrina.

What caused such a massive failure to

respond to the needs of 3.5 million U.S. citizens? What is our responsibility now to our fellow Americans on the island?

We have no easy answers, but one thing is clear: We are not doing enough. And it will take longer-term private investment — beyond slow-moving U.S. government relief funds — to build resilience to future storms.

Maria's 155 mph winds unleashed a full-blown humanitarian crisis on American soil, claiming well more than 1,000 lives and creating the longest blackout in our country's history. It was one of the most horrific natural disasters in modern U.S. history.

Basic modern-day services are still not fully operational across the island. The electric grid is vulnerable to frequent outages, and the most isolated areas lack water. The elderly are particularly at risk as many simply cannot cope with unreliable medical treatment, oppressive heat and sporadic power.

Yet corporate and foundation support of Puerto Rico in 2017 stood at only \$62 million, according to data collected from the Foundation Center and the Center for Disaster Philanthropy. Compare that with the \$341 million in support after Hurricane Harvey, which devastated Texas, and the \$128 million after Hurricane Irma, which badly damaged Florida. Thanks to

these investments, as well as a much more robust government response, Texas and Florida were back on their feet in a matter of weeks. Puerto Rico, however, continues to struggle to meet basic needs 10 months after the storm.

What accounts for this disparity? For many mainland U.S. foundations, Puerto Rico somehow isn't "American" enough for regional or local funding. But it's also not "foreign" enough to qualify for international charities. With the country betwixt and between, philanthropy has found it easier to ignore Puerto Rico for decades.

Prior to the hurricane, Puerto Rico was suffering through another crisis: a crushing debt that paralyzed the island's economy. Yet in 2015, Puerto Rico received only about \$5 million in philanthropic funds. Compare that with economically distressed cities such as Detroit, which received \$201 million in foundation support in 2015, or Buffalo, N.Y. (\$67 million), Fresno, Calif. (\$20 million), or Memphis, Tenn. (\$263 million).

Puerto Ricans are ready to continue the recovery work needed to put their island back on its feet for the long term. We met with young leaders driving local start-ups and discussed months ago a 2.6 percent military pay raise effective Jan. 1, 2019, to match recent wage growth in the private sector. It also will be the largest percentage military pay increase in nine years.

On the other hand, conferees agreed to end a "personal money allowance" that, by law, has been paid to senior naval officers holding five prestigious positions. The titles affected, and the size of allowances disappearing, are: director of Naval Intelligence (\$5,200); superintendent of the Naval Academy (\$5,200); president of the Naval War College (\$1,000); commander of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy (\$800); and president of the Naval Postgraduate School (\$400).

Compensation. The highlight of compensation provisions embraced by conferees was decided months ago: a 2.6 percent military pay raise effective Jan. 1, 2019, to match recent wage growth in the private sector. It also will be the largest percentage military pay increase in nine years.

On the other hand, conferees agreed to end a "personal money allowance" that, by law, has been paid to senior naval officers holding five prestigious positions. The titles affected, and the size of allowances disappearing, are: director of Naval Intelligence (\$5,200); superintendent of the Naval Academy (\$5,200); president of the Naval War College (\$1,000); commander of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy (\$800); and president of the Naval Postgraduate School (\$400).

Tricare fees blocked. Military associations lobbied successfully against Senate language to repeal an unusual grandfather provision in current law that protects working-age retirees from a host of Tricare fee increases that, for now, target only members who enter service this year or later and eventually retire.

Senators wanted the higher Tricare cost-shares applied to all current and future retirees under age 65 and not disabled, as the Defense Department intended. Conferees blocked that, but said they remain concerned about the high cost of military health care, understanding that much of the cost has been driven by new benefits and benefit enhancements authorized by Congress.

With the Congressional Budget Office estimating the average military cost of providing health care to a typical retiree household at \$17,800 by 2021, conferees directed the defense secretary to update that estimate by next February and to list policy options both to improve quality of health care and to better control costs.

The conferees also agreed that a survey be conducted "to ascertain whether

better.

U.S. donors must step up and do their part. Puerto Rico needs the resources, capital and expertise to invest in hyperlocal infrastructure. The network of small stores in rural areas served as a lifeline after Maria, even as many struggled to stay open due to damage and broken supply chains. These communities need support for communications and preparedness systems that will help them stay online and open to supply basic needs to residents. Every community must have at least one medical facility with the power and capacity to provide care through emergencies.

Foundations and philanthropic leaders from the mainland can also work with communities and institutions on the island on a "homecoming plan" for Puerto Ricans forced to leave in the wake of the catastrophe. Many of these efforts are underway, but they need support to grow to scale.

For U.S. charities and foundations, here is the bottom line: Puerto Ricans continue to show us their tenacity, creativity, ingenuity and capacity. Now it's time for philanthropy to prove we have the will and capacity to act, before it's too late.

Ana Marie Argilagos is president and chief executive officer of Philanthropy Forward. Dorfman is president and chief executive of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy. Nelson I. Colón is a senior executive of the Puerto Rico Community Foundation.

## Retiree Tricare hikes rejected; disabled vets to shop on base

BY TOM PHILPOTT  
Special to Stars and Stripes

A House-Senate conference committee tasked with ironing out differences in separate versions of the defense authorization bill has rejected Senate-passed provisions that would have sharply increased Tricare fees, deductibles and co-pays for a million retirees under age 65.

Lawmakers who in recent weeks shaped a final \$716 billion John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (HR 5515) also voted to allow disabled veterans, Purple Heart recipients and caregivers of veterans severely injured in war to shop on military bases, paying slightly more at checkout than current patrons. They also will be able to use base recreational facilities.

Expansion of access to on-base services, which the Department of Defense endorsed in part to make commissaries more self-sustaining, is to occur Jan. 1, 2020.

Conferees also narrowed the scope of Senate-passed reforms to officer accession and promotion practices so officers will be promoted to the rank of colonel or major as part of the same year group they were promoted to current rank.

Also shelved was the Senate plan to repeal use of authorized officer strength tables to instead require that Congress annually authorize the number of officers allowed to serve in the ranks of O-4 through O-6 across all the services.

Officer promotion law long has required consistent promotion timing and promotion opportunity across officer year groups. The Senate wanted to replace those requirements by grouping officers based on competitive categories, such as similar qualifications, specialties, occupations or ratings. Conferees also rejected that idea.

However, a host of other accession and promotion reforms survived the conference and will "begin to modernize officer personnel management to bolster the effectiveness, recruitment and retention of the armed services," says a Senate Armed Services Committee press release.

## MILITARY UPDATE

"The 38-year-old Defense Officer Personnel Management Act requires all military services to manage their officer corps in the same general manner within specific constraints. By beginning to reform this system, the [2019 defense authorization bill] will provide for flexibility in the careers of commissioned officers [to] better serve the demands of the modern force."

Changes approved to better manage officers include:

■ Repeal of a requirement that candidates for regular commissions not be older than 42, or at least have enough service years to complete 20 years by age 62.

■ Enhancement of services' authority to award constructive service credit for special private-sector training or experience to allow active or reserve officer appointments up to the rank of colonel or Navy captain in critically needed fields.

■ Authorization of each service to award temporary promotions to the ranks O-3 through O-6 for specified positions. Only the Navy has such authority today, so this change would standardize it across all branches.

■ Authorization of promotion boards to recommend that "officers of particular merit" be placed higher on promotion lists than peers.

■ Allowing officers, when deemed in the best interest of the service, to have their names removed from consideration by a selection board for promotion to the next higher grade, and authorizing officers in certain military specialties to remain on active duty until reaching 40 years active service.

■ Authorization of use of alternative promotion processes for officers in certain secretary-designated competitive categories, to include a term-based continuation process when certain officers are not selected for promotion. This would selectively end the traditional up-or-out requirement for officer management.

Conferees rejected House language that

would have required the Air Force to assess the "feasibility and advisability" of allowing otherwise qualified candidates who are deaf or hearing impaired to be Air Force officers.

Compensation. The highlight of compensation provisions embraced by conferees was decided months ago: a 2.6 percent military pay raise effective Jan. 1, 2019, to match recent wage growth in the private sector. It also will be the largest percentage military pay increase in nine years.

On the other hand, conferees agreed to end a "personal money allowance" that, by law, has been paid to senior naval officers holding five prestigious positions. The titles affected, and the size of allowances disappearing, are: director of Naval Intelligence (\$5,200); superintendent of the Naval Academy (\$5,200); president of the Naval War College (\$1,000); commander of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy (\$800); and president of the Naval Postgraduate School (\$400).

Tricare fees blocked. Military associations lobbied successfully against Senate language to repeal an unusual grandfather provision in current law that protects working-age retirees from a host of Tricare fee increases that, for now, target only members who enter service this year or later and eventually retire.

Senators wanted the higher Tricare cost-shares applied to all current and future retirees under age 65 and not disabled, as the Defense Department intended. Conferees blocked that, but said they remain concerned about the high cost of military health care, understanding that much of the cost has been driven by new benefits and benefit enhancements authorized by Congress.

With the Congressional Budget Office estimating the average military cost of providing health care to a typical retiree household at \$17,800 by 2021, conferees directed the defense secretary to update that estimate by next February and to list policy options both to improve quality of health care and to better control costs.

The conferees also agreed that a survey be conducted "to ascertain whether

beneficiaries would be amenable to additional modest fee increases to maintain a fiscally viable, comprehensive health benefit."

The sweeping fee increases blocked included a first-verse Tricare Select enrollment fee and, for retirees who use non-military facilities, a new annual deductible. CBO estimated that retiree users of Select would have seen average out-of-pocket costs jump from \$1,645 a year to \$2,800 for family coverage and from \$570 to \$1,160 for self-only coverage. Retiree households using Prime would have seen more modest increases. Tricare for Life recipients would be spared.

More shoppers. Commissaries and exchanges nationwide are expected to see a few hundred thousand more shoppers. Conferees accepted House language to open base stores and services, starting in 2020, to any veteran with a service-connected disability, as well as to Purple Heart and Medal of Honor recipients, former prisoners of war and veteran caregivers.

Defense officials supported the House-backed provision, to strengthen the military resale system and to reward deserving veterans with shopper discounts, if an extra user fee could be imposed on these "secondary" groups of store patrons.

A department study concluded that "a large influx of new patrons is necessary to continue efficiently providing commissary and exchange benefits into the future." Military associations and veteran groups also supported the provision.

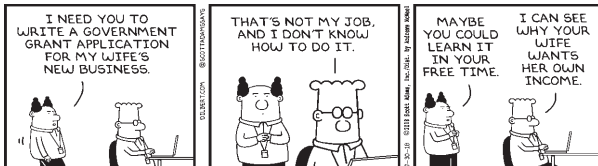
Trump parade. Conferees modified House language in support of President Donald Trump's call for a Washington military parade. The conference report says it's "appropriate to honor and celebrate 100 years of patriotic sacrifice in a way that expresses appreciation and gratitude for our men and women in uniform." But the bill "prohibits the use of operational units or equipment in the parade if the Secretary of Defense believes such use will hamper readiness."

Sent comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, Va. 20120; email: milupdate@aol.com; Twitter: @Military\_Update.

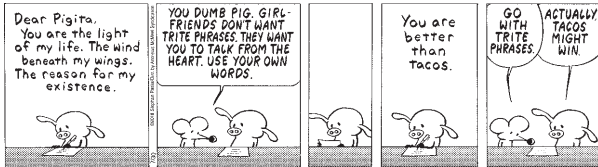
Frazz



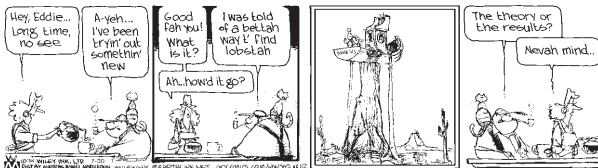
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



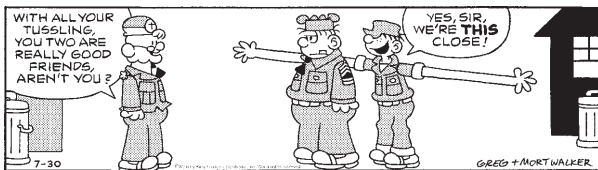
Candorville



Carpe Diem



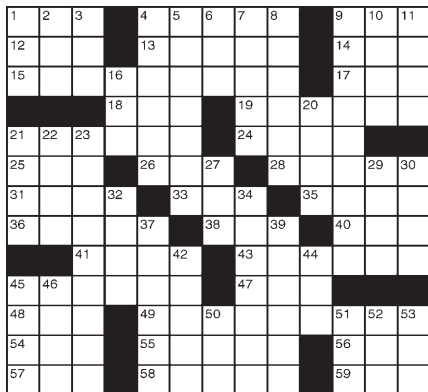
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



### Eugene Sheffer Crossword



#### ACROSS

- 1 Bread spread
- 4 Island off Venezuela
- 9 Solidify
- 12 Rowing need
- 13 Musical symbols
- 14 Exist
- 15 Research institute
- 17 Actress Long
- 18 Ga. neighbor
- 19 Pooh's pal
- 21 Secondhand rental
- 24 Crisp cookie
- 25 NBC sketch show
- 26 Collection
- 28 Ravine
- 31 Ocho —, Jamaica
- 33 Bando of baseball
- 35 Volcanic flow
- 36 Unemotional
- 38 Happy Hour venue
- 40 Zero
- 41 Narcotic
- 43 League newbie
- 45 Drink
- 47 Iowa college
- 48 Fluffy scarf
- 49 Famed diarist
- 54 A billion years
- 55 Nary a soul
- 56 Scottish river

#### DOWN

- 57 "For shame!" once (Abbr.)
- 58 Nymph pursuer
- 59 Abrupt turn
- 1 Scribble (down)
- 2 Satisfied sigh
- 3 Hosp. scan
- 4 Leg joints
- 5 Spins
- 6 Tony-winner Hagen
- 7 Natural talents
- 8 Making inquiries
- 9 Ship-boarding parts ...
- 10 Buffalo's lake
- 11 Mad king of theater
- 16 Super Bowl org.
- 20 Old name for France
- 21 Ukr. and Lith., once (Abbr.)
- 22 Military group
- 23 Red Cross repository
- 27 Indent key
- 29 107, to Cato
- 30 Robust
- 32 iPhone voice
- 34 Theft
- 37 Havana populace
- 39 Housetop laborer
- 42 Salami variety
- 44 "— the ram- parts ..."
- 45 "Yeah, right"
- 46 Cattle calls?
- 50 Part of NIMBY
- 51 Wood-shaping tool
- 52 PBS funder
- 53 Beer barrel

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-30

#### CRYPTOQUIP

FDTA GXZ TXVKQXPW JMX  
VSTF RX DHP TKBKIF D  
TSOFDQBK GXZFGOKP  
TNDHOTM JOHK:  
TMKZZW-NOIAOHR.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF A FRYING PAN IS ILLUMINATED THROUGH A GLASS ROOF OPENING, I'D SAY IT'S A SKYLIT SKILLET.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals T



**FREE AD Guidelines:**

- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

# STARS AND STRIPES®

## CLASSIFIED

Go to [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) to place your free ad. *Sell fast/ Buy fast*

When you see this camera icon go to [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) to view the uploaded photo.

| EUROPE                 |   | MIDDLE EAST   |  | PACIFIC   |  |
|------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Advertising:</b>    | Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com<br>+49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013 | Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com<br>+49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013     |  | Ichiro Katayanagi CustomerHelp@stripes.com<br>+81(3) 6385,3267 DSN 315,229,3267 |  |
| <b>Circulation:</b>    | Van Rowell rowell,van@stripes.com<br>+49(0)631,3615,9111 DSN 314,583,9111       | Robert Reismann reismann,robert@stripes.com<br>+49(0)631,3615,9150 DSN 314,583,9150 |  | Mari Matsumoto SSPcirculation@stripes.com<br>+81(3) 6385,3171 DSN 315,229,3171  |  |
| <b>Reader Letters:</b> | letters@stripes.com   | letters@stripes.com   |  | letters@stripes.com   |  |

## Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates: **CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012**

Announcements 040

Automotive 140

Announcements 040

Jobs Offered 630

### SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classified advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

### SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Anyone having claims or obligations to the estate of Sgt. Wyatt G. Shirley of the 15th Engineer Battalion, 18th Military Police Brigade, should contact the summary court officer, 1st Lt. David S o l o m o n a t D S N 314-475-9915.

**Autos for Sale**  
• Germany 142

**Auto • Quality Preserved US SPEC Vehicles**  
[www.backautosalles.com](http://www.backautosalles.com)  
Free Europe-wide delivery

**Jobs Offered 630**

**Ramstein Dental Care**  
a busy American practice has an opening for an experienced general dentist to join our Ramstein-Miesenbach office.

Please send your resume to [ramsteindentaloffice@manager@gmail.com](mailto:ramsteindentaloffice@manager@gmail.com)

**Wiesbaden Dental Care**  
a busy American practice has an opening for an experienced general dentist to join our Wiesbaden office.

Please send your resume to [wiesbadendentaloffice@manager@gmail.com](mailto:wiesbadendentaloffice@manager@gmail.com)

**Travel 1000**  
\*\*Summer in Garmisch!\*\*  
Hotel Forsthaus Oberau 8 km N of Garmisch Hot tub/launa 39eur PP, DBB, occ. free brkfst, dogs welcome, 08824-9120  
[www.forsthaus-oberau.de](http://www.forsthaus-oberau.de)

**Sell Your Stuff!**

Take the fass out of packing up for your next PCS — sell everything with Stripes *free classified!*

STARS AND STRIPES

## Want a better picture?



You'll get one — just by reading Stars and Stripes military news coverage.

*In print • Online at [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad*  
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us, wherever you need us.

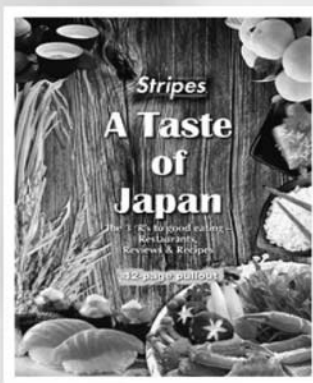
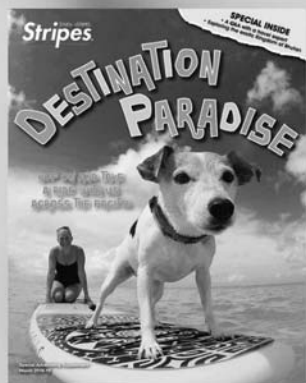
## Round-the-world news for America's military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill.  
Also available on mobile apps for iPhone and Android and in a Tablet Edition for iPad.

STARS AND STRIPES

Mobile • Online • Print

# You've never felt more like a local.



Available online at  
**[stripes.com/special-publications](https://www.stripes.com/special-publications)**

Whether you are searching for the best Sunday brunch in Okinawa or a family friendly get away in Germany, one of our **FREE** publications will help you embrace your new home so you can live your new adventure to the fullest.

# STARS AND STRIPES®







Tour de France winner Geraint Thomas, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, passes the Arc de Triomphe during the twenty-first stage on Champs-Élysées avenue in Paris, France, on Sunday.

CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

## Scoreboard

### Tour de France

Sunday

At Paris

21st (Final) Stage

A largely ceremonial 116-kilometer ride from Houilles to the Champs-Élysées

1. Alexander Kristoff, Norway, UAE Team Emirates, 2:46:36.
2. John Degenkolb, Germany, Trek-Segafredo, same time.
3. Arnaud Demare, France, Groupama-FDJ, same time.
4. Edvald Boasson Hagen, Norway, Dimension Data, same time.
5. Christophe Laporte, France, Cofidis, same time.
6. Max Richeze, Argentina, Quick-Step Floors, same time.
7. Sonny Colbrelli, Italy, Bahrain-Merida, same time.
8. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
9. Andrea Pasqualon, Italy, Wanty-Groupes Gobert, same time.
10. Jasper De Buyst, Belgium, Lotto Soudal, same time.
11. Timothy Dupont, Belgium, Wanty-Groupes Gobert, same time.
12. Thomas Boudat, France, Direct Energie, same time.
13. Sébastien Vermeir, Belgium, EF Education First-Draxpac, same time.
14. Magnus Cort, Denmark, Astana, same time.
15. Oliver Nassen, Belgium, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.
16. Daniele Bennati, Italy, Movistar, same time.
17. Nikias Arndt, Germany, Sunweb, same time.
18. Edward Theuns, Belgium, Sunweb, same time.
19. Matthew Hayman, Australia, Mitchelton-Scott, same time.
20. Timothee Rosen, Netherlands, LottoNL-Jumbo, same time.
36. Tom Dumoulin, Netherlands, Sunweb, same time.
42. Chad Haas, United States, Sunweb, same time.
67. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, same time.
69. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, same time.
96. Warren Van Garderen, BMC Racing, :30 behind.

### Final Overall Standings

1. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, 83:17:13.
2. Tom Dumoulin, Netherlands, Sunweb, 1:51.
3. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 2:24.
4. Primož Roglič, Slovenia, LottoNL-Jumbo, 3:22.
5. Steven Kruijswijk, Netherlands, LottoNL-Jumbo, 6:08.
6. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 6:57.
7. Mike Landa, Spain, Movistar, 7:37.
8. Dan Martin, Ireland, UAE Team Emirates, 9:05.
9. Ilnur Zakarin, Russia, Katusha Alpeca, 12:37.
10. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, 14:18.
11. Bob Jungels, Luxembourg, Quick-Step Floors, 16:32.
12. Jakob Fuglsang, Denmark, Astana, 19:46.
13. Pierre Latour, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 22:26.
14. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 22:26.
15. Egan Bernal, Colombia, Team Sky, 27:52.
16. Tanel Kangert, Estonia, Astana, 34:52.
17. Warren Van Garderen, France, Fortuneo-Samsic, 37:06.
18. Domenico Pozzovivo, Italy, Bahrain-Merida, 39:08.
19. Rafal Majka, Poland, Bora-Hansgrohe, 39:57.
20. Damiano Caruso, Italy, BMC Racing, 42:31.
32. Tejay van Garderen, United States, BMC Racing, 1:23:05.

CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

Fans wave as the pack passes during the twenty-first stage of the Tour de France on Sunday.

# Thomas wins first Tour de France

Team Sky rider defied the odds to become champion

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN  
Associated Press

PARIS — Five years ago when riding the Tour de France in support of Chris Froome, Geraint Thomas fell off his bike on a Corsican road in the opening stage and broke his pelvis.

Against all odds, Thomas soldiered on for 3,000 kilometers and three weeks to the finish line in Paris, where he celebrated the first of Froome's four victories with the rest of their Team Sky teammates.

On Sunday, it was now Thomas's turn to add a first Grand Tour triumph to an already glorious career with victory in the Tour de France.

"He is a true fighter," says Sky principal Dave Brailsford, the man who masterminded Britain's successes at the Olympics and Tour de France made for Bradley Wiggins and Froome.

"When he fractured his hip five years ago, he could not even stand up his bike in the team time trial that followed. He still carried on and finished the race. It speaks volumes about his personality. Since his junior years, he has always wanted to win."

At 32, the new Tour de France champion is everything but an overnight success.

Growing up on the outskirts of Cardiff, Wales, Thomas started bike racing at 10, and his exceptional qualities did not remain unnoticed for long.

"I first saw him when he was about 13 or 14 and he joined me at 17," says Rod Ellingworth, the performance director at Team Sky, who also trained Thomas as a British team coach. "You could see straightaway he was just flying round the track, he was pretty good. As he joined the junior program, you just knew he was going to be pretty talented."

Thomas's first successes came on the



MARCO BERTORELLO/AP

Britain's Geraint Thomas, left, and Team Sky teammate Christopher Froome hold a glass of champagne during Sunday's final stage of the Tour de France.

track. In 2006, he was the youngest member of the British pursuit team that competed at the world championships. In 2008, he won the Olympic gold medal alongside Wiggins. Four years later in London, with a second gold medal secured in the same event, Thomas left track cycling to focus on road racing.

Described by his coaches as a dedicated professional with a healthy and a balanced lifestyle, Thomas had already showed immense skills on the road from winning the Paris-Roubaix junior race in 2004.

"Geraint's ambition was classics first," Ellingworth says. "Then he rode the Tour in 2007 and three years later he wore the white jersey (for the best young rider). He had this

'He is a true fighter.'

Dave Brailsford

Team Sky principal, on Tour champ Geraint Thomas

ambition to win the Tour in the back of his mind."

As in previous years, Thomas started the Tour to help Froome try and win for a record-equating fifth time. But Froome crashed in the first stage and lost time, then cracked in the Pyrenees while Thomas' tremendous form was rewarded with impressive wins in the Alps.

Sky, and particularly Froome, were subject to abuse during this tour after Froome was cleared of a doping case only days before the start. But Thomas looked immune to the boos and jeers that accompanied them through this 3,350-kilometer odyssey. He won back-to-back mountain stages and became the first British rider to win at the Alpe d'Huez. He sealed his victory with a third-place finish on Saturday in the challenging time trial.

"He is really laid back, but not like he does not care," Ellingworth says. "He is really confident in himself and uses his people very well. You don't mind going the extra mile for him."

Thomas lives and trains in Monaco with his wife but often returns to Cardiff to socialize with friends and family. For a long time, he had a reputation as a party boy, always up for a few pints of beer while watching a rugby match.

"Like much young British guys, he likes a drink or two, but he is not wild," Ellingworth says. "When he was with me full-time, we lived in Manchester or in Italy. I encouraged him to get out and get it out of his system, in a way. He just enjoys life. He also got older, he got married, and things have settled down."

Now he's Tour champion.

## SPORTS BRIEFS/GYMNASTICS



ALEX GALLARDO/AP

**Mikey Garcia, left, hits Robert Easter Jr. with a left during the tenth round Saturday in the WBC and IBF World Lightweight unification title bout in Los Angeles. Garcia won by unanimous decision.**

## Briefly

## Air Force's Kim first openly gay active player at academy

From wire reports

Bradley Kim, a defensive back at the Air Force Academy, announced on Friday that he is gay. Kim, who shared his story on his Instagram account and through an interview with OutSports, is the first active player at a service academy to publicly come out.

"The biggest reason I want to share this is to be able to reach people who are in similar situations struggling with the same things I have struggled with," Kim told OutSports. "I want to be that example for kids that you can be gay, you can pursue your dreams, and you can have an athletic career. 'My dreams got me to a D1 football program. I want to be there for people who don't feel like they have anyone there for them, because I was that kid growing up in high school.'"

Before going public with his story, Kim, a safety for the Falcons, informed his fellow defensive backs and received a standing ovation in response. Per OutSports, Kim had previously come out to his parents and various other Air Force teammates and coaches, all to responses of complete support. The Air Force Academy provided a statement to the Colorado Springs Gazette that said, "The academy strives to foster a culture where everyone gives and receives dignity and respect so that each individual has the opportunity to fulfill their potential."

## Bell earns fourth Xfinity series win of season

AMES, Iowa — Christopher Bell moved back out front in overtime to win the NASCAR Xfinity series race Saturday at Iowa Speedway, becoming the first series regular with three straight victories since Dale Earnhardt Jr. in 1999.

Bell led 94 of 257 laps. He broke a tie with Cup driver Kyle Larson for the series season victory lead

with four.

Justin Allgaier finished second, followed by Kyle Benjamin and Ross Chastain.

## Moore wins MVP after WNBA All-Star victory

MINNEAPOLIS — Lynx star Maya Moore said she's routinely asked if she has room for all of the awards she's won in her basketball career. She'll have to make space for another trophy after her performance on Saturday.

Moore won her third straight All-Star MVP award to lead Team Parker past Team Delle Donne 119-112 in the WNBA All-Star Game.

"Thank you for your concern for my storage space," Moore deadpanned after she was asked the question again after she scored 18 points, grabbed eight rebounds, and dished out six assists to win the MVP award on her home court.

"It's crazy, it really is, to just be fortunate enough to continue to be in positions to win, to be playing well, to be healthy," said Moore, who joined Lisa Leslie as the only three-time MVP of the game and became the all-time scoring leader in All-Star history, passing Tamika Catchings' mark of 108 points.

## Garcia nabs 135-pound IBF title belt

LOS ANGELES — Mikey Garcia added the IBF lightweight belt to his WBC title on Saturday night, dominating the previously unbeaten Robert Easter for a clear unanimous decision victory.

Garcia (39-0) knocked down Easter in the third round and controlled long stretches of the bout at Staples Center. He unified the two 135-pound titles with flair in his first fight in his native California in seven years.

The judges all favored Garcia, scoring it 116-111, 117-110 and

118-109.

The 30-year-old Garcia has been a world champion in four weight classes, and his combination of precision and power was too much for Easter (21-1). Garcia knocked down Easter with a nasty left hook in the third round and nearly finished the bout moments later.

Mario Barrios (22-0, 14 KO) recorded his sixth straight stoppage victory in the eighth round against Jose Roman (24-3-1). Each of the judges had the fight scored 80-70 in favor of Barrios at the time of the stoppage when Roman's corner didn't answer the bell for the ninth round.

## Baker sets world mark in 100m backstroke

IRVINE, Calif. — Kathleen Baker had settled for a first-place tie in the 200-meter backstroke. In the 100 back, she wanted the attention for herself.

Setting a world record guaranteed it.

The 21-year-old Olympian won in 58.00 seconds at the U.S. national championships on Saturday night, lowering the world mark of 58.10 set by Kylie Masse of Canada at last year's world championships in Hungary. Baker finished second to Masse in Budapest.

## Jimenez, Ames share Senior British lead

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland — Miguel Angel Jimenez shot par 72 in blustery conditions to remain 9-under overall and two shots clear heading to the final round of the Senior British Open on Saturday.

Tied for second were Tom Pernice (71) and Kirk Triplett (73) of the United States, defending champion Bernhard Langer (73) and Stephen Ames (74) of Canada.

A dozen others, including 68-year-old Tom Watson, were within four strokes of the leader.

## Biles triumphs in competitive return

By WILL GRAVES  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The jitters were obvious and unmistakable. A step out of bounds on floor exercise. A hop back on vault. An uncharacteristic slip off the uneven bars.

Simone Biles needed them. Maybe deep down, the Olympic gymnastics champion wanted them too, if only to help her figure out whether she was truly mentally ready to return to the sport she's dominated for a half-decade.

The answer came before her balance beam set during the U.S. Classic on Saturday night when Biles found herself in second place heading into the final rotation after a sloppy uneven bars set.

Needing to score at least a 14.0 to avoid losing a meet for the first time in five years, Biles wasn't focused on the pressure of living up to her own remarkable legacy. She was too busy being mad. And here's the thing: she kind of liked it.

"I guess in that moment, I enjoyed being [ticked] off, yeah," Biles said with a laugh.

It showed. Displaying the form that helped her make history at the 2016 Summer Games, the 21-year-old drilled a 15.2 to post an all-around score of 58.700, more than a point ahead of Riley McCusker and more than two points clear of reigning world champion Morgan Hurd.

The unbeaten streak is still alive. So is the gap between Biles and the rest of the world. Even after a 71-day layoff. Even after switching coaches. Even after growing up a bit. In the sport she's come to define, there remains Biles and everyone else.

The proof came over the course of two hours when she posted the highest scores on vault (15.4), floor exercise (14.75), beam (15.2)

and all-around in the world in 2018.

"There's still a lot to work on — work on the nerves, work on the consistency, work on the landings — but for this point, at this time in the year, I think we're in a pretty good place," Biles said.

Or at the very least, a place no one else on the planet can get to at the moment. The scary part may be how many points Biles left out there. She won by 1.2 points even with major deductions on three events.

"It's great to see that she still has it inside of her," said Laurent Landi, who serves as Biles' coach along with his wife Cecile. "Now she needs to build on this and to take all the positives out of it."

Biles admitted even she was curious how she'd respond in her return to competition following a two-year break following her staggering haul in Rio de Janeiro, when she tied an Olympic record by collecting five medals — four of them gold — that cemented her status as one of the best gymnasts ever. All before her 20th birthday.

She spent a year basking in the afterglow, enjoying — but not overindulging in — her newfound fame. She hit all the usual post-Olympic notes, doing some reality TV, publishing a book and traveling. She became more comfortable in her own skin, moved into an apartment and got a boyfriend.

There was never any really set timetable on when she might return, but she took her first tentative steps in her comeback late last summer. Things got serious when she hired the Landis as her new coaches last fall, intent not to simply recapture the form that captivated the 2016 Olympics but to push herself and her sport forward.



JAY LAPRETE/AP

**Olympic champion Simone Biles competes on the balance beam during the U.S. Classic on Saturday in Columbus, Ohio. The event was Biles' first competition since the 2016 Games.**





## MLB

# Puig, Wood power Dodgers past Braves

LA slugger homers, drives in three in return from DL

By GEORGE HENRY  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — It didn't take Yasiel Puig too long to get his home run swing back. "I'm so happy to be back with the team and help the team win today and do something with the bat," he said. "Today I helped do something in the game and I feel good."

Puig homered and drove in three runs following his return from the disabled list, Alex Wood pitched 5½ scoreless innings to win his sixth straight decision and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the struggling Atlanta Braves 5-1 on Saturday night.

Reinstated after missing 15 games with a right oblique strain, Puig made it 1-0 with a sacrifice fly in the second off Max Fried and pushed the lead to 3-0 in the sixth with his 12th homer, a towering shot off Luke Jackson that bounced off the third-level scoreboard facade in left field.

Wood (7-5) allowed one hit and four walks with five strikeouts. His performance followed Rich Hill's seven scoreless innings Thursday and Clayton Kershaw's one run allowed in 7½ innings Friday against an Atlanta offense that led the NL for most of the first half of the season.

The Braves, second in the NL East, have lost four straight and 13 of 18 most-ly because their bats have been quieted. They've averaged 2.2 runs over their last 13 defeats and have dropped to fifth in NL runs scored.

"We're having a hard time kind of getting anything flowing at all, any rhythm in the at-bats, anything moving, the whole thing," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "I wish I had the magic answer to make it happen, but you don't."



John Amis/AP

The Dodgers' Yasiel Puig watches his two-run home run sail to left field during the sixth inning of Saturday's game against the Braves in Atlanta. Los Angeles won 5-1.

## Roundup

# Martinez hits 32nd homer as Red Sox top Twins

Associated Press

BOSTON — J.D. Martinez hit his major league-leading 32nd homer, Mookie Betts had two RBI doubles and the Boston Red Sox beat the Minnesota Twins 10-4 on Saturday night for their 17th win in 21 games.

Betts raised his MLB-leading average to .346 and Jackie Bradley Jr. hit a two-run triple for the Red Sox. They have a 5½-game lead over the New York Yankees atop the AL East and own the majors' best record at 73-33.

Logan Morrison hit a solo homer for the Twins, a night after they appeared to throw in the towel a bit in pursuit of a playoff spot following a pair of trades that sent away infielder Eduardo Escobar and reliever Ryan Pressly.

Boston starter Rick Porcello (13-4) labored through 5½ innings on a steamy night, giving up four runs on five hits, striking out five and walking one. Jake Odorizzi (4-7) gave up five runs on nine hits in five innings.

Trailing 4-1, Boston scored three times in the fourth and moved ahead on Martinez's shot that left Fenway Park over the Green Monster seats in the fifth.



Michael Dwyer/AP

The Red Sox's Eduardo Nunez throws to first base during the ninth inning of Saturday's game against the Minnesota Twins in Boston.

**Angels 11, Mariners 5:** Rookie Francisco Arcia had a homer and six RBIs, giving him a major league-record 10 RBIs in two career games, and Los Angeles rolled past visiting Seattle.

**Royals 10, 4; Yankees 5, 5:** Greg Bird homered to begin a two-run rally in the eighth inning and host New York survived

a rough outing by newly acquired reliever Zach Britton and a tumble by CC Sabathia, beating Kansas City for a split of their day-night doubleheader.

In the opener, the Royals tagged All-Star ace Luis Severino for six runs in 4½ innings. The doubleheader was caused by a rainout Friday.

**Cardinals 6, Cubs 2:** Marcell Ozuna hit a grand slam in a six-run first inning, Miles Mikolas pitched six strong innings and St. Louis beat Chicago in front of a season-high 47,514 fans at Busch Stadium.

The Cardinals improved to 9-6 this season against the NL Central-leading Cubs.

**Rangers 7, Astros 3:** Rougned Odor hit an inside-the-park homer and a regular over-the-fence shot, going 5-for-5 to help visiting Texas beat Justin Verlander and Houston.

**Diamondbacks 9, Padres 4:** Jon Jay hit a go-ahead, two-run double in the eighth inning and finished with three hits and three RBIs to lead Arizona past host San Diego.

**Rockies 4, Athletics 1:** Nolan Arenado homered for the second time in two games, Carlos Gonzalez doubled three times and Colorado beat visiting Oakland for its 10th win in 12 games.

**Orioles 11, Rays 2:** Trey Mancini and Joey Rickard combined for seven hits, including back-to-back home runs in the second inning, and host Baltimore breezed past Tampa Bay.

**Pirates 5, Mets 0:** Trevor Williams outduelled Jacob deGrom in Pittsburgh's victory over visiting New York.

**Reds 6, Phillies 2:** Joey Votto drove in the go-ahead run with a sharp single that glanced off second baseman Cesar Hernandez's glove, leading host Cincinnati past Philadelphia.

**Tigers 2, Indians 1:** Jacob Jones hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the third inning to help Detroit beat visiting Cleveland.

**White Sox 9, Blue Jays 5:** Pinch-hitter Daniel Palka gave host Chicago the lead with a two-run single and Leury Garcia added a three-run triple in a six-run eighth, lifting the White Sox over Toronto.

**Marlins 2, Nationals 1 (10):** J.T. Realmuto singled with the bases loaded and none out in the 10th inning, and Miami snapped a streak of eight consecutive home losses to Washington.

**Brewers 7, Giants 1:** Jhoulys Chacin pitched three-hit ball over seven innings, Christian Yelich homered for the second time in three days and Milwaukee beat host San Francisco.

## NFL

# Brady: Questions about body coach 'ridiculous'

By KYLE HIGHTOWER  
Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady calls it "ridiculous" to suggest the suspension of Patriots receiver Julian Edelman is tied to the quarterback's personal health coach.

The questions about Alex Guerrero on Saturday prompted Brady to abruptly end his first media availability of training camp.

"I have no comments, just ridiculous. I'm out," Brady said before walking away.

Edelman brushed aside a similar question in his first comments since receiving his four-game ban for a drug-policy violation.

"What's in the past is in the past. I love Alex and ultimately I'm worried about just going out here and playing football," Edelman said. "I'm not here to talk about or make a headline or something."

Edelman, tight end Rob Gronkowski and former Patriots receiver Danny Amendola are among several Patriots who have also worked or consulted with Guerrero.

Edelman will begin serving his suspension at the start of the regular season. He can practice with the team and play in preseason games.

Brady provided another short response when asked if there was tension between him and coach Bill Belichick this summer.

"I have no thoughts," Brady said.

Brady has relied on a fitness and nutrition program developed by Guerrero since 2004. The pair also partnered in opening Brady's TB12 Sports Therapy Center, which is adjacent to the Patriots' Gillette Stadium facility.

In January, Patriots CEO Robert Kraft, Belichick and Brady released a statement calling an ESPN report "flat-out inaccurate" that said there had been disputes between team officials and Guerrero regarding player-medical affairs.

Brady will turn 41 next week and has credited Guerrero's program with helping to extend his NFL career, which is entering its 19th season. As part of the strict regimen devised by Guerrero, Brady eats a mostly plant-based diet during the season.

Despite skipping the voluntary portion of spring workouts, Brady said his focus and commitment to football remain high.

"Football is very, very important to me. It always has been, and I love being out here with my teammates. So, it's great," Brady said. "As you get older you have different responsibilities, and I think that's just part of life. Everyone's got to deal with those responsibilities differently and what works for them."

"Football is a huge part of my life. I love being here with my teammates and playing, and hopefully we can have a great season."



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady runs to the practice field during training camp in Foxborough, Mass., on Friday. Questions about his personal trainer Alex Guerrero on Saturday prompted Brady to abruptly end his first media availability of training camp.

# Jets playing waiting game with Darnold

By DENNIS WAZAK JR.  
Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Still no sign of Sam Darnold.

The No. 3 overall draft pick sat out of New York Jets camp for the second straight day in a contract impasse that has already lasted longer than most expected.

Darnold is expected to compete with Josh McCown and Teddy Bridgewater for the starting quarterback job once he's under contract. But he and Chicago linebacker Roquan Smith, the No. 8 choice, remain the only unsigned picks from the entire NFL Draft.

"I'm just worried about the guys that are here," coach Todd Bowles said after practice Saturday. "The guys that are here are going to play and we're going to get ready for the season. And, when he comes in, he comes in."

Darnold will receive a four-year, fully guaranteed contract worth \$30.247 million, including a \$20 million signing bonus — when he signs. But the dispute seems to hang on contract language.

One issue could be offset language, which if included could provide a team with a measure of financial protection if it cuts a player during his rookie contract. Not having offset language, a condition that Darnold's representatives are apparently seeking, allows a player to receive his remaining salary from the team that cut him, as well as get paid by another team that signs him.

"It's part of the business," Bowles said, insisting he's not frustrated by Darnold's absence.

"You deal with something every year. I'm not disappointed. I have a bunch of guys out here to coach and get ready for the season."

The Jets' practice Saturday was open to the public, and there were a handful of Darnold No. 14 jerseys spotted throughout the stands. Fans broke into occasional chants of "We Want Sam!" during the 2½-hour session.

"It's not my business," wide receiver Robby Anderson said when asked of Darnold's situation. "I'm not an agent. I'm not a coach. I'm not a GM. That's out of my control."

For the second straight day, Josh McCown and Teddy Bridgewater handled all of the offensive snaps — more than were expected when the Jets thought they'd have three quarterbacks on the field.

If Darnold continues to sit out, New York could potentially bring in another arm for camp while it waits on the rookie.

"We'll see," Bowles said. "We'll play it by ear. Right now, we're OK, but we have a Plan B and we have some things in place, so we'll play it accordingly."

Notes: The Jets signed DL Shanell Jenkins and released DL Courtney Upshaw, who was on non-football injury/illness list to start camp. ... WR Quincy Enunwa fully practiced without the red non-contact jersey, appearing close to being all the way back from neck injury a year ago that sidelined all of last season.

# Mayfield, Browns quarterbacks hanging out in 'QB RV'

By TOM WITHERS  
Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Cleveland's quarterbacks are "camping" at training camp.

And Baker Mayfield is paying for it. The Browns QBs are hanging out between practices in an RV equipped with a TV and other amenities being financed by Mayfield, the Heisman Trophy winner and No. 1 NFL draft pick who has quickly learned that being a rookie comes with obligations.

The idea for the QB clubhouse came from veteran Drew Stanton, who previously had a camper when he played for Detroit.

"I don't think Baker thought I was serious at first," Stanton said Saturday before practice. "Tyrod (Taylor), when I start getting on my rants in the [quarterback meeting] room sometimes he just kind of starts looking down at his paper because he doesn't want to hear what's coming out of my mouth next. But when Baker figured it out, he did a really good job with it and it's exactly what we needed."

The 30-foot-long camper is parked in the players' lot just outside the team's headquarters. It's an oasis for the Browns' QBs during long days filled with meetings, film sessions, weightlifting and outdoor workouts.

"It's just some place that you can go," Stanton said. "You can get out of these four walls that start to close in on you after a period of time. There's no secret meetings or anything going on. It's not like excluding anybody. Everybody's welcome. It's just a place to go unwind, get away from here for the time period that we have off and just nothing more, nothing less."

Browns left guard Joel Bitonio joked that



TONY DEJAK/AP

Browns rookie quarterback Baker Mayfield throws during training camp on Friday in Berea, Ohio. The Heisman Trophy winner has quickly learned that being a rookie comes with certain obligations — like renting a 30-foot camper for a quarterback clubhouse.

he's looking forward to visiting the private, four-wheeled lair.

"I might have a password or VIP access," he said. "Drew Stanton has given me the green light. I haven't actually made it in yet, but it's my goal this next week, so I'll get in, I might sip the beans or something."

Stanton said Bitonio — and some select others — can visit whenever they want.

"Any offensive linemen that's protecting us has VIP access," he cracked.

Stanton said the best thing about the camper is that it's a good place for an afternoon nap.

"We've got those beds back there (at the field house), but there's 30 beds and 90 guys. You do the math," Stanton said. "The odds aren't in your favor, but the RV is right next door. It's got a TV in it. Supposedly we're going to try and get some video games in there. But it's literally just a way to get out of this building to go get your mind away from football and do whatever you need to do to get ready for practice."

NFL



GUS RUELAS/AP

Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott passes the ball during a drill at Cowboys training camp on Thursday in Oxnard, Calif.

## Leading: Prescott steps into new role without hesitations

### FROM BACK PAGE

The option of staying off the field was part of a policy owners approved in May, but was put on hold not long after The Associated Press revealed that the Miami Dolphins would consider suspending players up to four games for kneeling or otherwise protesting during the anthem.

Just as he did when he showed up two years ago as the overshadowed third quarterback on Tony Romo's team, Prescott offered his opinion plainly and simply, and in so many words. There are countless people listening now.

"He knows how important that is to be one of the faces of the team and he always does exactly what you'd expect, to a script," offensive coordinator Scott Linehan said. "It's not forced. It's just part of him."

Now 15-year tight end Jason Witten and franchise touchdown catch leader Dez Bryant are gone. The former Mississippi State standout is the leading voice, and not hesitating to use it.

"I'd never protest during the anthem, and I don't think that's the time or the venue to do so," Prescott said while adding that he respected the right of others to protest. "We know about social injustice. I'm up for taking a next step, whatever that step may be for action and not just kneeling."

Prescott didn't have any immediate specifics for that community action, but it'll be a few months before he can concentrate on it fully. Right now he's trying to get the Cowboys back to the playoffs after his encore flat flail.

Dallas missed the postseason in 2017 last season, clouded by the fight over the six-game suspension that Prescott's fellow rookie

sensation, running back Ezekiel Elliott, finally had to serve half-way through the year.

"It was just a lot of mental mistakes, a lot of things that I feel like I don't normally do," said Prescott, who had 13 interceptions a year after throwing just four while setting an NFL rookie record for passer rating. "I feel like I thought a lot about different things last year within the games and that's something I'm going to try to eliminate."

The Cowboys are unproven at tight end and receiver after Witten retired and the Cowboys decided to release Bryant in a cost-cutting move. Cole Beasley has the longest Dallas tenure among the receivers, and Terrance Williams is the only other pass-catcher who was on the roster for Prescott's rookie season.

"Really last year was a struggle. He had some breakdowns at other spots that made it tough on him," Beasley said. "Good or bad or ugly, he's the same person through and through. That's what you want from your quarterback. Because that's how it is in games."

Elliott doesn't have a possible suspension looming this season, and at the moment an offensive line that was an issue a year ago is healthy with a new piece in second-round pick Connor Williams. The former Texas player is working as the starting left guard in camp.

Not long before coming to California, Prescott spent time with some of his untested receiving corps in Florida. Now he goes about figuring out life without Witten and Bryant.

"We're past that," he said. "We had the whole (offseason practices) and minicamps to kind of get over that stage. Those are guys I've said before you can't replace. But when you get out here, you just see the youthfulness that we have, how young this team is and the energy."

With a new leading voice.

# 49ers' Foster says he's learned from legal woes

By JOSH DUBOW

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — San Francisco 49ers linebacker Reuben Foster said he is using his legal problems that he feared could cost him his football career this offseason as a learning tool going forward now that he has been cleared of the most serious charges.

Foster spoke to the media on Saturday for the first time since he was charged in April for felony domestic assault and later exonerated when the accuser recounted her story and a judge found no other credible evidence.

"I learned every day I have to go harder at everything I do now to better myself even more," Foster said. "It's like do or die. Just don't mess up. ... It's like how I'm trying to craft my career, I have to craft my life."

Foster spent much of his offseason dealing with legal issues rather than preparing for his second season in the NFL. He was charged in January in Alabama with second-degree marijuana possession. That charge was eventually dismissed after he completed a first-time offender diversion course.

Foster then faced more serious charges for an incident in California in February. He was initially charged in April with felonies for domestic violence, making criminal threats and weapons possession after being accused of beating up his ex-girlfriend.

A judge ruled there was no probable cause on the first two charges after the ex-girlfriend recanted the allegations and the judge found no other evidence to support the charges. The weapons charge was reduced to a misdemeanor and Foster pleaded no-contest to that in June.

He was sentenced to two years' probation, 232 hours of community service, and \$235 in fines.

Foster declined to discuss specifics of the case on Saturday and is just thankful to be back with his teammates on the field.

"It makes me appreciate football a lot better," he said. "It was crazy knowing that football could be gone. Just being back on this field with my brothers and these coaches is a blessing."

Foster missed about a month of the offseason program while dealing with the legal issues and will also be suspended without pay for the first two games of the regular season for violating the NFL's conduct and substance-abuse policy.

He is able to take part in training camp and play the exhibition games, but must sit out San Francisco's games against Minnesota and Detroit before being allowed to return on Sept. 17 before the Niners play Kansas City.



TONTY AVELAR/AP

San Francisco 49ers linebacker Reuben Foster runs a drill during practice at the team's headquarters Saturday in Santa Clara, Calif.

"It was painful," Foster said of the punishment. "It's football, something I do, something I love. It is what it is. Accept the consequences, you take it and you move on. You learn from it, too, and you grow from it."

The 49ers stood behind Foster even as he was not allowed at the facility. But coach Kyle Shanahan and general manager John Lynch have made clear that Foster must get his life in order and avoid further legal trouble if he wants to remain part of the organization.

"I think Reuben's done a great job just handling it," Shanahan said. "What they originally charged him with is as bad of a thing as you can imagine. It's a very embarrassing thing because of how bad it was. To have all that scrutiny on you and to have to go through that, I think would be a challenge for any human being. That would mess a lot of people up."

"I've been really, very impressed with Reuben in how he handled it, the process he went

through while it was going on and after it got dropped, how he's handled himself since. I know he learned a lot through it. We talked about it a lot at the beginning, that some things seem so bad but if you get through it, it can be a good thing in the long run. If you handle it right, it can enlighten you in some things and help you grow. I really think it has for Reuben and I think it's benefited him in the long run."

Foster said he appreciated the support, especially from teammates who came to court in a public show of support. One of those teammates was Richard Sherman, who barely knew Foster after signing with the team in March.

Sherman and Foster now have lockers next to each other.

"That's real. He's a man for that," Foster said of Sherman coming to court in April. "I respect Richard Sherman for that, coming to court and supporting me. Just being there for me at the hard times."



## SPORTS

**Thomas takes Tour**

Welsh rider gets first win, besting  
3-time champ Froome » **Page 26**

NFL

# Leading the way

**Cowboys QB Prescott already using  
his voice as new face of franchise**

By **SCHUYLER DIXON**  
Associated Press

OXNARD, Calif. — Dak Prescott's best test yet as the new face of the Cowboys came two days after owner Jerry Jones once again declared that all Dallas players will stand for the national anthem and even said they wouldn't be afforded the alternative of staying in the locker room.

The star quarterback didn't pause or stammer. He didn't stop himself to consider what his peers might think. He made it clear he will stand, and doesn't think it's right to do otherwise.

"Whether I was wearing the star or not, whether I was playing for Jerry Jones, Stephen Jones or any other owner, I believe in what I believe in and that's that," Prescott said Friday in his first session with reporters at training camp.

Jerry Jones held his usual camp-opening news conference Wednesday, and said his usual things about the anthem, and then some. Son Stephen Jones, executive vice president of personnel, suggested a day later that the Cowboys would cut any player who stayed in the locker room.

**SEE LEADING ON  
PAGE 31**

Dallas Cowboys  
quarterback Dak  
Prescott walks  
off the field after  
morning practice  
during training  
camp, Saturday in  
Oxnard, Calif.

GUS RUELAS/AP

**Puig helps power Dodgers over Braves » MLB, Page 29**

